

HALIFAX metro



Rainmen player suspended

Tyler Richards was charged with assault over weekend **PAGE 6**

How to lose friends and influence players

Board-game café opens **PAGE 8**

Deal or no deal

Mooseheads GM says he's open to making moves, for the right price, of course **PAGE 30**

CASE CLOSED IN FEWER THAN 140 CHARACTERS

MLA LENORE ZANN DROPS TWITTER HARASSMENT CASE **PAGE 10**

Mayor defends snow-clearing crews



Pedestrians cast long shadows on the still ice-covered sidewalks along Queen Street in Halifax on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Snow job. Difficult storm created very tough conditions, Savage says



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Despite all of the complaints, accidents and injuries due to icy roads and sidewalks in HRM over the past two days, Mayor Mike Savage said he has faith in the snow-clearing division, which was faced with difficulties after a "very unusual" storm.

On Tuesday afternoon, Savage said he was aware of the slippery conditions and the city was doing "as well as we can."

"It was a very unusual storm, and it obviously created unusual weather conditions for us to try to deal with," he said. "We're going to keep (an) eye on it."

Sunday's snow, ice pellets and rain created major issues when they were mixed together and packed down on the ground before freezing overnight, Savage said.

He said he's "convinced" residents will be as pleased with the snow-clearing operations as they were last year, but different conditions call for different responses.

Rev up the blowers

Haligonians were expected to wake up to more white stuff Wednesday as a storm that was forecast to begin overnight could bring another 15 centimetres of snow to the region before changing over to rain.

"I have a lot of faith in the people who manage and operate our snow clearing division in HRM," Savage said. "Our folks are ready, but there's just some storms that are more difficult to deal with."

Savage said this isn't a purely HRM issue because all areas of the province are finding ways to deal with dangerously icy roads and sidewalks.

"If we were the only city that was having this problem then we'd have to look at it," he said.

Halifax may be tougher than other cities that aren't on the coast and don't know how to handle storms, Savage said, but it's important to hit safety standards and have clear sidewalks in a "reasonable period of time."

"We just have to rise to the occasion, and I'm convinced that we will."

More coverage, page 3

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Snowmageddon



"The worst possible scenario happened."

Coun. Linda Mosher

Overall picture



"I'm a little bit concerned about the ... sidewalks,

but overall the main roads were done pretty well."

Coun. Tim Outhit

Takes time



"What I'm seeing now, 48 hours after the event, looks ... very reasonable."

Coun. Steve Craig

Perfect storm



"The response is hard to manage because of the kind of storm it is."

Mayor Mike Savage

Dust in the wind

"It doesn't matter if you have brine or salt or sand or anything, it all got washed away."

Coun. Wayne Mason

Unbreakable

"There's a coating of ice that plows just will not pick up.... It's tough."

Coun. Darren Fisher



Sidewalks were still hard to navigate with ice and snow covering many downtown laneways. JEFF HARPER/METRO

'Nobody's satisfied with the sidewalks,' councillor declares

Storm response.
Councillors receive dozens of complaints from angry residents



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Two days after HRM's first big storm of the season, a layer of ice over many sidewalks and streets had dozens of people calling their councillors about the slippery conditions.

Coun. Wayne Mason, who represents downtown Halifax, said he heard complaints from over 100 residents by

Tuesday afternoon.

"Obviously nobody's satisfied with the sidewalks right now," Mason said. "That being said, this was not a normal storm."

Mason said there was a "very narrow" window of time Sunday before the water on the ground started to freeze, creating a layer of ice the plows and sidewalk cleaners couldn't get through.

Any salt that crews were able to put down didn't work in the freezing temperatures Sunday morning, and the rain washed most of it away by the evening, Mason said.

"Short of getting dumped on like White Juan, it's pretty much the worst kind of storm

Injuries

39

The number of slip-and-fall injuries related to the icy conditions, according to Capital Health

we can get," he said.

Coun. Linda Mosher, who represents the Armdale area, said she's had 97 complaints about streets in her area and 52 about sidewalks.

Mosher said she wasn't happy with the conditions either but understood it was due to "extraordinary weather" and the crews did the best they could.

"They understand, and I agree, it was a mess. There's not a better word for it," Mosher said.

Both councillors agreed the unusual nature of the storm made it unfair to rate how the new HRM snow-removal service worked for the urban core.

The old system where residents hand-shovelled their sidewalks worked best, Mason said, because downtown Halifax and Dartmouth could be clear within three hours after a snowfall.

Now, the city is in charge of clearing those sidewalks.

"The city will never be able to meet that standard," he said.

One person satisfied with sidewalks

Christina Brown said she was nervous leaving her Barrington Street apartment on Tuesday.

The 22-year-old was venturing out around noon and, like many other HRM residents, encountered a near-solid sheet of ice.

"It's kind of scary," Brown said as she eyed the sidewalk.

"They need to do a better job, because definitely people can injure themselves."

Brown said she was confused because she doesn't remember the sidewalks being "completely covered" in ice last year, but the winters also seem to be getting less harsh.

Britany Wolfe was clearing the snow off her car on

nearby Veith Street and said she didn't think there was enough salt down on the roads and sidewalks.

"I just don't think they were prepared. Maybe it came too early, and there weren't enough plows on the road," Wolfe said.

Ashley Ellis was just leaving Wolfe's apartment and

said she had no complaints about the cleanup.

Ellis said she'd moved to Calgary recently and thought HRM had done a much better job handling the storm.

"There's no salt, there's hardly any plows out there. The roads look like this on a regular basis," Ellis said.

HALEY RYAN/METRO

Blue and Bear walk the walk for HRM crosswalk safety

Stop for pedestrians and other mammals. Halifax police hoping mascots can help bring attention to issue

GEORDON OMAND

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Police in Halifax are trying a fresh approach to promoting crosswalk safety in the wake of a recent spike in pedestrian-vehicle collisions.

Blue, the crime-fighting Halifax Regional Police dog mascot, along with his RCMP counterpart, Safety Bear, made the rounds of HRM on Tuesday, using pedestrian crossings across the region as part of a new public-awareness campaign on crosswalk and pedestrian safety.

"We decided our messaging ... needed a bit of a twist," said HRP Deputy Police Chief Bill Moore.

"We're trying different things to get the message out to both pedestrians and motorists that this is a shared responsibility."

According to police reports, there have been 74 pedestrian-vehicle crashes so far in 2013, more than 20 of which happened in December. Three quarters of those collisions took place in a crosswalk.

"The hard part for us is that there seems to be no rhyme or reason to it," said RCMP spokesman Jeff Dowling.

"It's any day of the week, it's any time of the day and it's any intersection in the HRM. There's not one area we can really key in on and say that's the problem."

Dowling attributed the increase to pedestrians and drivers not paying enough attention.

The average age of pedestrians getting hit is 39.

"These are not young people that we're seeing getting into most of these accidents," said Moore. "We're trying to teach adults something they already know and we're hoping they're paying attention."

Blue and Safety Bear travelled around HRM on Tuesday, accompanied by enforcement officers in unmarked cruisers, but it is not believed any tickets were issued for vehicles failing to yield to the police mascots.



"It's silly, but if it makes people pay attention then it's worth it."

Jeff Dowling, RCMP spokesman, on using mascots to draw attention to crosswalk safety

Halifax Regional Police Const. Trish Kennedy and Const. Mark Stevens follow mascot Blue across a crosswalk on Robie Street on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO



Steven Douglas Skinner CONTRIBUTED

Suspect in local murder wanted internationally

The Canada-wide arrest warrant for a Halifax man wanted in connection with a 2011 murder is now an international warrant.

Steven Douglas Skinner, 40, is now listed on the RCMP's Wanted website as the subject of an international warrant for second-degree murder.

"Information was brought forth to the police through the

investigation that he may be in Mexico," said RCMP Cpl. Scott MacRae. "So a process has taken place to get an extradition in place in case he is located."

Skinner is wanted in connection with the shooting death of 20-year-old Stacey Adams in Lake Echo in April 2011.

He was named as a suspect and charged with second-degree murder in late July 2011,

despite being at large. A Canada-wide warrant was issued for his arrest and he has appeared on the Halifax Regional Police High-Risk Enforcement Action Team (HEAT) list ever since.

MacRae said major-crime investigators are working with Interpol to locate Skinner and bring him back to HRM.

"There is a process in place

Trial

Steven Douglas Skinner was due to stand trial in 2012.

that if the crime is serious enough or it's warranted, a country can look at asking other countries to extradite a person back to where the

incident occurred," he said. "(Second-degree murder) is definitely a very serious crime."

At the time of Adams' murder, Skinner was on bail and facing charges related to the 2009 attack on a Lower Sackville man. Skinner and another man were accused of entering the victim's home and using hot implements to burn him.

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO

Gladstone Street

Masked men ransack unit, threaten victim

Police are looking for three men who forced their way into a Halifax apartment then ransacked it before stealing everything from electronics to clothes.

The victim, a 25-year-old man, was home alone when he heard a knock at his apartment door in the 2600

block of Gladstone Street around 1 a.m. Tuesday.

When he answered the door, police say the victim was confronted by three suspects who had their faces covered. One of the men also had a handgun and another a crowbar.

The victim was forced to the back of the apartment as the suspects stole a variety of things.

When they left, the victim ran to a nearby store and called police. He wasn't injured. **METRO**

Taking donations

Metro Transit offering free rides for New Year's Eve

There will be free Metro Transit service again on New Year's Eve for HRM residents.

The municipality says starting at 6 p.m. on Dec. 31, all Metro Transit bus and ferry service will be free of charge until the end of the night, along with

Access-A-Bus service.

The free rides don't include MetroLink and Metro X.

Bus service will continue on some routes until 2 a.m., while the last Alderney Landing ferry leaving Halifax will be at 1:45 a.m. New Year's Day.

People are asked to make a donation to support Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Halifax Regional Chapter if they take advantage of the transit service. **METRO**



Metro Transit ferry METRO FILE

Cause unknown

Two-vehicle crash injures four

RCMP say four people are injured following a two-vehicle collision on St. Margaret's Bay Road in Hubble on Tuesday. The Mounties responded to the call shortly after 2 p.m.

Officers say the collision left three people in one vehicle and the driver in another with non-life-threatening injuries. **METRO**

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Rainmen suspend Richards indefinitely over assault charge

Incident. Police say woman assaulted by man at Taboo nightclub



ANDREW RANKIN

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The Halifax Rainmen have suspended Tyler Richards indefinitely until his court case is over for an assault charge against a woman stemming from an alleged weekend bar incident.

Team owner Andre Levingston made the announcement Tuesday, one day after the news of the charge was made public.

"We're going to suspend him for now, pending the outcome of the investigation," Levingston said on Tuesday afternoon. "Naturally, the allegation is a concern of ours. We think it's best right now that Tyler



Tyler Richards of the Halifax Rainmen basketball team practices with the club in this 2012 file photo. JEFF HARPER/METRO

deals with the situation in front of him. We think he should

focus on that, and two, we want to know what the outcome will

be and we'll take it from there." Police officers responded to

an incident at Taboo nightclub early Sunday morning where a 22-year-old woman alleged she was assaulted by a 27-year-old man inside the bar.

Richards, a guard with the Rainmen, was held in custody overnight and faces a single count of assault for the alleged incident. He is due in court Jan. 30.

Levingston said the team is taking the matter very seriously.

"We'll let due process take its course," he said. "There are two different sides. The truth is in the middle. We bring in these gentlemen to represent our city and our club. These are very serious allegations against him and we need to make sure this is dealt with in the proper way."

Richards has had one previous encounter with the law. A former star with the St. Francis Xavier X-Men men's basketball team, Richards saw his final

Quoted



"He's really disappointed. All the hard work he's put

into cleaning up his character and rebuilding his image is right back to zero. Now he's got to start all over again."

Rainmen owner Andre Levingston speaking about Tyler Richards

varsity season end prematurely when he and two teammates were charged after a man was punched and kicked during a fight in February 2009.

Richards was sentenced to fourth months house arrest in April 2010 on a single count of assault causing bodily harm.

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Customers anything but bored with Halifax's new gaming hub

'A push back against the digital domain.'
Business booming for newly opened Board Room Game Café

GEORDON
OMAND
halifax@metronews.ca

If you enjoy taking a Risk or getting into Trouble, settling in Catan or taking out the Riff Raff, there's a new café in Halifax that might be right up your alley.

Business has been bustling at the city's new Board Room Game Café, which opened earlier this fall.

"I was expecting some popularity, but it's been better received than I planned for," said owner Kris Moulton. "It's great."

Nestled in a cozy, underground atrium on Barrington Street, the Board Room is a blend of café, pub, retail outlet and board-game hub. Customers pay a \$5 cover charge and get to try out any of the more than 400 games on offer.

Options include classics like Monopoly and Crokinole, and more recent releases such as Cards Against Humanity and Ticket to Ride.

"There's a game for everybody," said Moulton.

"It's different than the club scene," he added. "(And) we're cheaper than a movie."

The café has become so popular, staff now take waitlists on Friday and Saturday nights.

Unlike other game stores in Halifax, the venue is licensed to sell alcohol and also offers sandwiches and other light fare.

Halifax's Board Room is

Owner Kris Moulton's top five new and classic games

Old-school:

- Payday
- Chess
- Crokinole
- Monopoly
- Risk

New:

- Terra Mystica
- Ticket to Ride: Europe
- Power Grid
- Twilight Struggle
- Agricola



John Gallant, left, and Kris Moulton demo Riff Raff, one of the hundreds of games available to play at the Board Room Game Café on Barrington Street on Tuesday.
JEFF HARPER/METRO

the latest in a series of similar businesses popping up across the country, from Vancouver to Montreal.

"We're in a sort of board-game renaissance right now," said Lewis McGinn, the Board Room's head barista.

"There are tons of good

games coming out every month. People are really into it again."

"I think it's got a lot to do with how we spend most of our day in front of the computer screen," said owner Moulton. "It's a push back against the digital domain."

The Cole Harbour native worked in Toronto at Canada's original board-game café, Snakes and Lattes, before returning to Halifax this year to open the Board Room.

First-timer Rachel Hastings visited the café with friends on Tuesday.

"It's really fun," said the 26-year-old Dalhousie student. "There are so many games that you wouldn't get to try because you'd have to buy them."

"(And) it's nicer than going to a movie because you get to talk and enjoy your friends."

Getting Dropped Off at the Airport?



Construction is underway along the drop-off curb at Halifax Stanfield. Airport operations will continue, with safe access to the terminal building.

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MLA Zann drops her complaint, 'satisfied' with police results

Cyberbullying. Twitter harassment case has been closed

A Nova Scotia politician who says she was bullied online after someone posted a topless photo of her on Twitter has dropped the complaint she filed with the province's new cyberbullying investigations unit.

Lenore Zann, a member of the Nova Scotia legislature from the Truro area, says she's satisfied that police and the CyberSCAN team have done all they can.

"The young man who started the whole thing rolling has been very good and he hasn't been in touch with me," she said in an interview.

Last week, the former actress complained she had been harassed on Twitter

over two weeks after she was sent a photo taken from the cable TV series *The L Word*, in which she appeared topless in a shower scene in 2008.

"I'm not going to proceed further with any criminal or legal action," Zann said in an interview. "I'm quite satisfied that the school and the police have dealt with this effectively and appropriately."

Zann also said she has closed her Twitter account, saying the social networking site has become a "nasty and negative kind of world."

Truro police confirmed last week they had concluded the case was not a criminal matter and closed their file.

Citing privacy concerns, the unit can't divulge details of the cases it handles under the province's new Cyber-safety Act. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Truro-Bible Hill MLA Lenore Zann, seen here in September, has dropped her cyberbullying complaint against someone who posted a topless photo of her on Twitter. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CyberSCAN

Unit's work so far

Since it started operating on Sept. 30, the CyberSCAN unit has received 57 complaints. The unit says it has issued three warning letters, reached seven informal resolutions and resolved 10 cases through other means, including police involvement.

The province's Cyber-safety Act defines cyberbullying as any electronic communication that can "cause fear, intimidation, humiliation, distress or other damage or harm to another person's health, emotional well-being, self-esteem or reputation."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tax cut on the ropes?

Nova Scotia's finance minister says a cut in the harmonized sales tax scheduled for next year is in jeopardy.

Diana Whalen said Tuesday that the province can't afford to lose about \$190 million in revenue for each percentage point cut in the HST.

"Given the figures that we have been presented with it will become clear that it is not the right thing to do at this time," Whalen said in an interview. "We will not be cutting off any source of revenue because

we cannot afford to do so."

The former NDP government brought in legislation to cut the HST by two percentage points over two years, beginning next year, which would bring the tax down to 13 per cent.

While Whalen wouldn't give specifics about the figures to be presented in a fiscal update she is scheduled to release Thursday, Whalen said projections by the previous NDP government are significantly off the mark.

Whalen said the prov-

MacDonald mum

The NDP said its acting leader, Maureen MacDonald, was unavailable for comment. MacDonald was the party's finance minister before the NDP was defeated in October's election.

ince's overall fiscal situation is worse since the NDP announced in August that the province was running a slender surplus of \$18.3 million. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada Post cutbacks

Group concerned about impact on people with disabilities, seniors

A group representing Nova Scotia municipalities says it's worried about the impact on seniors and people with disabilities once Canada Post stops door-to-door mail delivery in urban centres.

The Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities says it wants Ottawa to fund a



A mail carrier walks in Ottawa Wednesday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

program that would allow people with physical challenges to hire someone to

retrieve their mail.

The union says the federal government has a social responsibility to ensure mail is accessible to everyone.

Kentville Mayor David Corkum, who is also president of the union, says not all residents are able to get to a community mailbox or afford to hire someone to pick up their mail.

Canada Post plans to deliver mail to communal boxes beginning next year to stem rising financial losses. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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The Otter Lake landfill dominated discussions on waste management at a community consultation. JEFF HARPER/METRO FILE

Otter Lake supporters overwhelm solid waste strategy meetings

'Very vocal.'

Employees of landfill, neighbours came out in force to oppose proposed changes, says report



RUTH
DAVENPORT
ruth.davenport@metronews.ca

A report on the public-engagement process related to HRM's solid-waste strategy review says supporters of the Otter Lake landfill overwhelmed meetings with a "very vocal effort" to articulate their point of view.

National Public Relations organized the community engagement, which included meetings and an online component focused on a wide-ranging review of HRM's solid waste-management system.

But the report, released last week, states most of the discussion focused on recommendations to eliminate the front-end

processor (FEP) and waste-stabilization facility (WSF) from the landfill, despite a signed agreement between HRM and the host communities.

"Our takeaway is that opponents to changes at Otter Lake organized and mobilized to have the loudest voices in any room, and therefore significantly affected the point of view of others who may have come to an event truly undecided," states the report.

Ken Donnelly, a consultant for the landfill's citizen monitoring committee, said that should come as no surprise.

"We repeatedly said that if you go ahead with the WSF and FEP on the table ... all you're going to get is consultation on the changes at Otter Lake," he said. "It's the people most at risk who come out to the meetings."

The report also suggests because of the dominant participation by Otter Lake supporters, the online surveys might "reflect a broader and more representative collection of resident voices."

Quoted

"If you want meaningful community engagement, then you should expect and appreciate the fact that people who are very concerned about the impact ... are coming out to those meetings."

Otter Lake CMC consultant Ken Donnelly

Coun. Stephen Adams said the Otter Lake host community was "backed into a corner," and suggested most residents would share their concern regardless of location.

"How many people would say, 'There's a contract in place and we think you should break that to save money?'" he said. "How many residents, regardless of where they are, would say that's OK?"

The report, along with staff recommendations, will go to council Jan. 14.

Garbage and recycling

Otter Lake overshadows other issues

The NPR report on the solid waste community engagement suggests concern over the Otter Lake issue overshadowed other issues around

garbage and recycling.

Coun. Stephen Adams said the consultation almost needs to begin again once the landfill question has been settled. "Let's work on things that we can actually change to make a better system," he said, suggesting ideas like the use of clear bags for garbage, or reducing the number of bags

allowed for curbside pickup.

Adams also said the consultation should start with residents' input, rather than asking them to comment on existing recommendations.

"That would be true and genuine public consultation, as opposed to what we've gone through," he said.

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO



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Reporter rejects Ford's 'apology'

Defamation.
Toronto mayor's
statement not enough
to halt lawsuit

Rob Ford's apology Tuesday for his televised comments about Daniel Dale failed to satisfy the Toronto Star reporter, who said he is going ahead with a defamation lawsuit against the Toronto mayor.

Ford read a statement in council saying he didn't intend to suggest Dale is a pedophile during a televised interview with Conrad Black.

"I never called Mr. Dale a pedophile," Ford said. "I have never used that word to describe Mr. Dale. I do not believe Mr. Dale is a pedophile nor did I intend to suggest that in my comments."

Ford said he apologizes if his "actual words" have caused Dale any harm or personal offence. The mayor called it "unfortunate" that a word he never said has been "ascribed" to him by the media.

Those remarks come a week after Ford initially said he stood by every word of the interview.

Dale served Ford last week

with a libel notice, demanding the mayor retract all of his false claims about what happened during an incident near Ford's house in May 2012 and issue an "unreserved, abject, complete apology."

Hours after Ford read his statement, Dale issued one of his own on Twitter, saying Ford's apology didn't even come close to what he sought.

"In his 'apology,' the mayor didn't retract anything at all," Dale wrote. "Instead, he blamed the media for its reasonable interpretation of his words."

During the interview with Black, which aired Dec. 9 on VisionTV, Ford claimed that Dale was in his backyard, "taking pictures of little kids."

"I don't want to say that word, but you start thinking what this guy is all about," Ford said.

If pedophile wasn't "that word," then someone should ask Ford what word he was suggesting, Dale said in an interview.

"I think to some extent now it doesn't matter what he was suggesting," Dale said.

"Whether it's his intent or not it's the impression that was left and I don't think it's because the media misinterpreted him." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

The reluctant apologist

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford has been forced to apologize for various behaviours and off-colour or insulting remarks since the so-called crack video scandal broke in May.

Dec. 17:

Reluctantly apologized for suggesting members of council were "corrupt." He initially withdrew his comments, but speaker Frances Nunziata said he needed to apologize. "Which one do you want, Madam Speaker?" Ford said sarcastically. "Like, 'Super, super, super, super, super, super, super sorry? So sorry?'"

Nov. 18:

Apologizes for running into Coun. Pam McConnell and knocking her over during a council meeting to strip the mayor of most of his powers. "It was a complete accident," Ford said.

Nov. 14:

Apologizes for crude remarks he made earlier that day in which he denied offering a former female

staffer oral sex, saying he had "more than enough to eat at home."

Nov. 8:

Appears ashamed while delivering a statement in response to a video that surfaced of a rambling, enraged Ford in a profanity-laced tirade in which he threatens to kill someone. "Obviously, I was extremely, extremely inebriated," he said.

Nov. 5:

Apologizes after admitting he had indeed smoked crack cocaine, likely in one of his drunken stupors.

Nov. 3:

Apologizes on his now-cancelled weekly radio show on Newstalk1010 for making mistakes including appearing in public while "hammered" and texting while driving.

May 27:

Apologizes to reporters for calling them a "bunch of maggots" during his radio show. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Mayor Rob Ford looks up to the press gallery as he concludes reading an apology to Toronto Star reporter Daniel Dale in Toronto on Tuesday.

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hollywood gets the cold shoulder

Actress Pamela Anderson and a co-creator of The Simpsons received a frosty reception in St. John's, N.L., on Tuesday as they tried to present a \$1-million incentive to help end the East Coast seal hunt.

Members of the Fish, Food and Allied Workers union, representing sealers, shouted questions at Anderson and Sam Simon during a chaotic news conference outside the office of the Canadian Sealers Association.

Simon offered a giant \$1-million cheque to the Canadian Sealers Association and said his intention is to respectfully encourage governments to legislate an end to seal licences while protecting aboriginal hunts.

In a letter dated Tuesday to Eldred Woodford, president of the Canadian Sealers Association, Simon said he's making the offer after the World Trade Organization upheld Europe's ban on imported seal products.

A dispute settlement panel said last month that aspects of the embargo undermine fair trade but can be justified



Hollywood actress Pamela Anderson and Sam Simon, producer of The Simpsons, talk to media outside the Canadian Sealers Association in St. John's, N.L., Tuesday. They attempted to deliver to the association a letter with a \$1-million cheque to help end the annual commercial seal hunt, but the office remained closed. PAUL DALY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

on "public moral concerns" for animal welfare.

"With bans firmly in place across Europe, Russia, the U.S., and other countries, the writing is on the wall," says the letter.

"The seal trade is finished. Leaders as diverse as President

Obama and Vladimir Putin embrace this change, yet Canadian politicians remain too timid to initiate a buyout for fear of upsetting swing voters in Eastern Canada — and because they don't seem to care about individual sealers."

The association's office

was closed and no one from the association was present.

Ottawa and the provincial government announced they'll spend almost \$500,000 on a joint pilot project to offer seal meat at stores in Canada and overseas in the new year. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Rob Ford, royal baby and twerking. Google reveals year's top search terms

After dissecting the more than 40 billion queries submitted throughout 2013, Google Canada has declared Toronto's notorious Mayor Rob Ford as search term of the year.

While Facebook was the absolute top search of the year — as it has been for several years running — Ford topped Google's so-called trending list, representing the search terms that stood out most compared to previous web history.

Ford was followed by the late Glee actor Cory Monteith, who died of an overdose in July; Fast and Furious actor Paul Walker, who was killed in a car crash last month; murder victim Tim Bosma; and the Boston marathon.

Nelson Mandela, royal baby, North Korea, the Harlem Shake dance craze and Lac-Mégantic rounded out the Top 10 list.

One of the most interesting annual lists Google releases is a countdown of trending "what is" searches, which reveals what topics web searchers were



Miley Cyrus "twerking" onstage with Robin Thicke during the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards in New York City. NEILSON BARNARD/GETTY IMAGES

keen to learn more about.

"What is twerking" topped the list, and the provocative dance was also the No. 1 "how to" search. Fracking was second on the "what is" list, followed by ricin, bbm, molly, bitcoin, Monsanto, Snapchat, EPO and DOMA.

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Lac-Mégantic

Rail traffic set to resume

The tracks have been repaired and trains are set to roll through Lac-Mégantic on Wednesday, five months after a runaway train carrying crude oil derailed, exploded and killed 47 people.

The town was built on the railroad, which remains a vital component for local



Smoke rises from railway cars in downtown Lac-Mégantic, Que., on July 6. THE CANADIAN PRESS

industry and the economy.

The insolvent company at the centre of the disaster — Montreal, Maine &

Atlantic Railway Ltd. — is expected to be sold in the coming weeks. Following the July derailment, MMA announced it would stop transporting crude oil on the rail line.

Mayor Colette Roy-Laroche, however, is concerned that the next owner could eventually resume cash-generating oil shipments through town, cargo that would raise concerns among many locals. She said the municipality is examining

its options to prevent it from happening.

The MMA and petroleum-logistics companies connected to the oil that exploded in Lac-Mégantic are facing lawsuits on both sides of the border for the disaster.

Last week, a warrant was granted to allow Transport Canada to search Irving Oil's office in Saint John, N.B. The train was loaded with oil destined for Irving's refinery in Saint John.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Workers clear debris and decontaminate the soil earlier this month on the main street of Lac-Mégantic, Que., months after an oil tanker train exploded and burned part of the downtown in July. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Lac-Mégantic residents rebuilding their town

Healing process.

A team of 11 grief counsellors stays busy providing individual and group therapy

ing part of Lac-Mégantic's core and killing 47 people in the middle of the night.

Marie-France Boulet, 62, was among the victims, though officials could not positively identify her remains. With 2013 coming to a close, the Boulet family, like so many in the region, are working to rebuild their lives and their town following a disaster that grabbed the world's attention.

Since the July 6 crash, millions of dollars in government funding has been pledged for the massive environmental cleanup and reconstruction; blueprints have been sketched for a new downtown; and discussions are underway to see whether the tracks can eventually be re-routed outside of railway-dependent Lac-Mégantic.

Staring at the spot where her sister's bed once stood, all she could make out amid the ash was a nest of mattress springs gnarled by the intense heat.

Louise Boulet said the building that housed younger sister Marie-France's home had burned to the foundation shortly after a runaway train carrying volatile crude oil roared into her town of Lac-Mégantic.

The tanker wagons bounced off the tracks in July and erupted in a series of powerful explosions, raz-

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Chopper to the rescue as fire nears trapped crane operator

Danger. Police went door-to-door advising residents to evacuate; at least one home near the burning building caught fire

In a dramatic rescue Tuesday that drew a gasping crowd, a military helicopter swooped in to airlift a worker trapped on a construction crane above a massive fire in Kingston, Ont.

Police said the crane operator suffered only minor injuries after being stranded when the blaze broke out around 2:15 p.m. at an apartment building that was under construction.

John Ashie was working at his family's car dealership down the street when his father asked him about the black smoke that was rising above the neighbourhood.

The 22-year-old stepped onto the street just in time to see bright orange flames

burst through the roof of the five-storey apartment complex that takes up at least one city block.

"Thirty seconds went by and then the whole top was up in flames," Ashie told The Canadian Press. "It seemed kind of out of control at that point, by the time the first fire truck got there."

Not long after, those who had gathered to watch fire officials battle the blaze noticed a figure perched atop a construction crane at the burning apartment complex.

"He actually had to get out of the little booth he was in and walk across the entire length of the crane, which would have been frightening enough," said Ashie. "He had to sit on the edge of the crane, and about 15 minutes later the flames were so big they were going up above the crane." A Griffon helicopter deployed from CFB Trenton plucked the worker from the crane at 3:35 p.m. and took him to a waiting ambulance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Firefighters battle a major fire in downtown Kingston, Ont., on Tuesday. Inset: A stranded crane operator sits on top of a crane. The man was rescued by a search-and-rescue helicopter from CFB Trenton. LARS HAGBERG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Murder trial. Knox declares innocence in email to Italian court

Amanda Knox declared her innocence in her roommate's 2007 murder in a highly unusual email Tuesday to the Italian court hearing the case against her. The former U.S. exchange student also said she was staying away from the trial out of fear of being wrongly convicted.

"I didn't kill. I didn't rape. I didn't rob. I didn't plot. I didn't instigate. I didn't kill Meredith," Knox wrote.

Presiding Judge Alessan-

dro Nencini read the five-page email written in Italian into the court record. He noted that the email, presented by Knox's lawyers before their closing arguments, was not a normal procedure in Italy. He said it highlighted Knox's absence and indicated it did not have the same legal standing as a declaration made in person.

Knox explained her absence was out of fear that she would be wrongly convicted. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scotland Yard

No evidence found tying SAS to death of Princess Diana

London's police force said Tuesday there is "no credible evidence" that British special forces were involved in the deaths of Princess

Diana and her boyfriend, Dodi Fayed, and it will not reopen the investigation.

Scotland Yard has been looking into claims that the SAS had played a role.

The claims, widely reported in the British media, were made by an ex-SAS member identified only as Soldier N.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Putin offers Ukraine \$15B bailout, cheap gas

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday opened his wallet in the battle with the European Union over Ukraine's future, saying Moscow will buy \$15 billion worth of Ukrainian government bonds and sharply cut the price of natural gas for its economically struggling neighbour.

The announcements came after Putin held talks in Moscow with Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, who is facing massive protests at home for his decision to shelve a pact with the EU in favour of closer ties with Moscow. Russia's bailout package angered protesters, who immediately accused Yanukovich of selling out the country to the Kremlin.

Washington said the Kremlin agreements would not address concerns of the demonstrators in Kyiv, and German Chancellor Angela Merkel dismissed what she



Pro-European Union activists gather during a rally in Independence Square in Kyiv, Ukraine, on Tuesday. EFREM LUKATSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

described as a "bidding competition" over Ukraine.

Putin's move came as Ukraine said it desperately needs to get at least \$10 billion in the coming months to avoid bankruptcy. The Fitch ratings agency has given Ukraine's bonds a B-minus

rating, which puts them in "junk bond" territory.

Putin sought to calm protesters in Kyiv by saying he and Yanukovich didn't discuss the prospect of Ukraine joining a Moscow-dominated economic bloc they fear will pull their country closer into

Russia's orbit.

Yanukovich has manoeuvred between Russia and the EU in an apparent search for the best possible deal. He has insisted Ukraine intends to sign the EU agreement but wants to negotiate better conditions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ethan
St. Catharines, ON

Sometimes, good things come in small packages. Ethan, a Pee-Wee hockey player from St. Catharines, ON, has been collecting used hockey equipment since 2009 and distributing it to underprivileged hockey players throughout Ontario and around the world.

Julia and Emma
Oakville, ON

Goodness runs in their family. Teen sisters Julia and Emma from Oakville, ON made it their mission to collect books for remote "fly-in" communities in Northern Ontario. Their charity Books With No Bounds has collected and distributed over 27,000 books.

George
Oliver, BC

Wherever help is needed in Oliver, BC, you'll find George. He spends his life spreading goodness in so many ways, but what's really special is the time and effort he devotes to growing fresh vegetables for others. Last year, he donated 1800lbs of veggies to the food bank.

Coby
North York, ON

This story proves that you can always make time to spread goodness. Coby leads a busy life in North York, ON, but he regularly visits a long-term home for the elderly. Through the joy of music and song, he, and a group of volunteers from The House, bring smiles and a little human tenderness to the aged.

Sharon
Brandon, MB

One person can fill an entire community with goodness. Sharon, from Brandon, MB, is in her retirement years, but she still works 5 days a week at her local soup kitchen. There by 6 a.m. every morning, she tirelessly cooks hot meals for 125-150 people from all walks of life.



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Voting period ends on January 03, 2014 at 11:59 AM ET. Limit of one vote per person per day. See www.facebook.com/shreddies for details.

Facebook auto-play video ads could 'push people away'

Monetizing socializing. Ads silently auto-playing in news feeds a hit with investors, but some users do not like the idea

Investors are giving a thumbs-up to the idea of Facebook making hundreds of millions in new revenue from video advertisements, but some users argue that the social network is already too cluttered and has become more about commercialism than communing with friends.

Facebook said Tuesday that it's testing video advertisements that show up in its users' news feeds. As part of the test, Facebook said some of its users on Thursday will see a series of videos teasing Sum-



mit Entertainment's upcoming release of *Divergent*, a film based on a young adult novel with the same name, in their feeds.

While investors liked the idea, with Facebook's shares hitting an all-time high of \$55.18 US on the news Tuesday, the reaction from users has been less positive.

Ben Wachtel, a 23-year-old from Indianapolis and a Facebook user since high school, says he feels like he and his friends are using the social network less and less, as ads crowd out posts from real people.

"If they add videos, especially auto play ones, it's just going to push people away," said Wachtel.

Under the current plan, the advertisements automatically start playing without sound when they appear. Users can click on a video to view it with sound, or scroll past it if they're not interested.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Smile, Siam Paragon mall, you're No. 1 on Instagram!

Will she be posting that pic of an aquatic animal display at Siam Ocean World in Siam Paragon shopping mall to Instagram? Sure, the Eiffel Tower, the Taj Mahal and the Grand Canyon are picturesque. But the luxury mall in the heart of Bangkok has claimed this year's crown as the world's most photographed location on Instagram in 2013, says the photo-sharing app. It edged out No. 2 Times Square and No. 3 Disneyland in California, as well as New York's Central Park and Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles. SAKCHAI LALIT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Replaces the late Larsson

New author to pen *Girl With Dragon Tattoo* sequel

The Swedish publisher of the bestselling *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* trilogy said Tuesday it has hired author David Lagercrantz to write a sequel to the series by Stieg Larsson, who died in 2004.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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Exceptions are blood collection at Musquodoboit Valley, Twin Oaks, Eastern Shore Memorial and Hants Community Hospital. These sites close at their regularly scheduled hours. St. Margaret's Bay Blood Collection is closed from Dec. 24 through Jan. 1.

All blood collection clinics are closed Jan. 1.

Walk-in x-ray services at most sites will be closed from Dec. 24 at noon through Jan. 1. Exceptions are x-ray services at Musquodoboit Valley and Twin Oaks, which will be open Dec. 27, 30 and 31, and Eastern Shore Memorial Hospital, which will be open Dec. 30.

If you have urgent blood collection or x-ray needs, please contact your family doctor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on holiday hours, please visit www.cdha.nshealth.ca and click the 'Holiday Hours' banner.

Capital Health reminds you to anticipate your health needs before the holidays:

- Ensure your prescriptions are filled.
- Do not over-exert yourself shovelling snow.
- Enjoy holiday cheer in moderation.
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Offers available on all new 2014 models purchased through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who purchase a new vehicle between Dec. 1/2013 and Dec. 31/2013. Dealers may sell for less, some conditions may apply. Offers are subject to change without notice, see dealer for complete details. 2014 Outlander GT model as shown has an MSRP of \$35,990.00, 2014 RVR GT as shown has an MSRP of \$28,490.00, 2014 Mirage SE has an MSRP of \$16,590.00, 2014 Lancer SE has an MSRP of \$20,990.00, 2014 Lancer Evolution GSR has an MSRP of \$41,990.00, 2014 Lancer Sportback has an MSRP of \$21,990.00, 2014 Lancer Ralliart has an MSRP of \$32,390.00. These prices are excluding freight, p.d., all taxes, dealer fees up to \$599, registration, p.d.s fees, insurance, licensing and duties on new tires. All payments are based on 36 months amortization through Bank of Montreal @ 5.99 % O.A.C. Representative examples are 2014 Outlander ES 2wd (C45-41), 2014 RVR ES 2wd (C45-41), 2014 Mirage ES (C44-41), 2014 Lancer SE (C41-41), 2014 Lancer Evolution (C40-41), 2014 Lancer Sportback (C41-41), 2014 Lancer Ralliart (C41-41) - retail payments are based on 2014 bi-weekly payments of \$184.37 / \$145.55 / \$99.02 / \$113.24 / \$287.72 / \$144.26 / \$229.56, with a base price of \$25,990.00 / \$19,990.00 / \$12,990.00 / \$14,990.00 / \$19,990.00 / \$32,390.00 (excluding all freight, p.d., all taxes, dealer fees up to \$599, registration, p.d.s fees, insurance, licensing and duties on new tires) with an all inclusive price of \$32,801.02 / \$25,901.02 / \$17,621.02 / \$20,311.02 / \$25,671.02 / \$40,851.02 (inclusive all freight, p.d., fees, taxes, and transfer) for a total cost of borrowing of \$5,312.54 / \$4,373.38 / \$2,975.34 / \$1,402.30 / \$8,644.34 / \$4,335.06 / \$6,897.46 and a total obligation of \$38,133.56 / \$30,234.40 / \$20,596.16 / \$23,553.52 / \$29,045.76 / \$38,006.08 / \$47,340.48. *Outlander lease payment is based on the ES C45-41 model at 0.9% interest for 36 months with a residual value of \$11,439.12 plus taxes. **Out from our toy chest and under your tree is a promotion exclusively from Metro Mitsubishi. (terms may vary by model, see dealer for details). *Best backed claim does not cover Lancer Evolution, Lancer Ralliart or i-MiEV. **MITSUBISHI MOTORS, BEST BACKED CARS IN THE WORLD are trade-marks of Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. and are used under license. ***Whichever comes first. Regular maintenance not included. See dealer or mitsubishi-motors.ca for warranty terms, restrictions and details. Not all customers will qualify.

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'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING

By the time you read this, someone could be at least \$636 million richer.

That's the U.S. Mega Millions jackpot, which was drawn last night. If nobody wins, the next draw will be Friday, and the prize will approach \$1 billion, which is so ridiculous, it's hard to type.

Of course, Uncle Sam gets his half right off the top, but that will still be a cool half-billion after taxes.

Buried somewhere in the fine print are the odds, which are only about one in 259 million. But somebody has to win eventually, and it won't be you if you don't buy a ticket.

Canadians are eligible to buy a Mega Millions ticket, but only if they cross-border shop to do it.

So when you're shopping for cheese or cheap gas, don't forget your one-in-259-million chance to join the one per cent overnight.



JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca

I wonder if the latest Mega Millionaire will follow the example of Calgarian Tom Crist, who won \$40 million in the Lotto Max recently, then decided to give it all away to charity to commemorate his wife, who died of lung cancer two years ago.

Tom says he's already financially secure thanks to his successful business and he doesn't need the money. But I imagine it's not easy to give away 40 million bucks, never mind 600 million.

Tom's story is particularly compelling because this is the season of giving and he sets the bar pretty high. Even the post-ghost Ebenezer Scrooge looks like a piker in comparison.

For years now, my wife has been dutifully buying lottery tickets while I scoff and snort in a nearby dark corner. Just as dutifully, she lists all the people she will help when she wins \$40 million or whatever. And as much as I ridicule the whole

process as pointless, it's not long before I start worrying how we're going to afford the villa on the Riviera while fighting cancer and paying off the mortgages of various friends and relatives.

And then, I remember:

1. It's her ticket. If I want the villa on the Riviera, I can buy my own ticket.

2. The odds of winning Lotto Max aren't quite one in 259 million, but I'm more likely to be hit by lightning, and how many times has that happened, touch wood? So what am I going on about?

3. Whatever happened to my generosity of spirit? It's pretty bad when I can't even imagine giving it away.

So thanks, Tom Crist. With the Spirit of Crist-mas present, you've inspired me to go out, buy a lottery ticket and think about giving it all away. If no one has claimed the Mega Millions prize after last night's draw, I may even head for the border and buy a ticket so I can imagine giving \$600 million away. What joy! Of course, there's no chance I'll actually win anything, is there?

So don't get too excited out there.

ZOOM

Carnivorous plant pic wins award

A picture of a meat-eating water plant has won this year's Olympus BioScapes International Digital Imaging Competition. Polish-born biologist Igor Siwanowicz's photo shows the inside of an open trap of aquatic carnivorous plant, the humped bladderwort (*Utricularia gibba*), which digests micro invertebrates sucked into its trap. **METRO**

Q and A

An underwater hunter



IGOR SIWANOWICZ
Biologist, 37, from Krakow, Poland, based in Ashburn, Va.

How does it catch its prey?

Antenna-like 'trigger hairs' guide an aquatic arthropod toward the trapdoor. Touching a hair causes the entrance to bulge inward. The plant's walls rapidly spring back to their initial position and the prey is sucked in within a millisecond!

It looks like a sort of bizarre, otherworldly vessel.

Yes, like an alien treasure stash! Honestly, if I tried I couldn't have planned this image to turn out this way. This photograph stands as a salute to nature's ingenuity.



IGOR SIWANOWICZ/2013 OLYMPUS BIOSCAPES INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL IMAGING COMPETITION

Clickbait



LUKE SIMCOE
Metro Online

It's a familiar refrain: An app debuts, gets popular and then gets banned from either the iTunes store or the Google Play store for violating our mobile overlords' terms of service. In the case of Apple, banning an app from iTunes effectively kills it (unless you're willing to jailbreak your phone), but Android's relative openness allows for side-loading apps. So, for all you Android users out there, here are some of the best of the banned:



CONTRIBUTED

Falcon Pro (getfalcon.pro):

Arguably one of the best Twitter clients for Android, Falcon Pro vanished from the Play store last summer. To be fair, it wasn't Google's doing, but rather Twitter's. The company's user limit for third-party clients — which some believe is an attempt to corral everyone into the official app — kiboshed Falcon for new users. Fortunately, you can still install the app, and a little Googling will show you how to circumvent Twitter's limit.

CyanogenMod (cyanogenmod.org):

CyanogenMod is a user-created alternative to stock Android. It's the most popular Android remix on the

market, and allows users get the latest version of the OS if their manufacturer hasn't released an update. An easy-to-use installer for CyanogenMod was booted from the Play store in November but can still be found online. Be warned, as Google claims installing CyanogenMod can void your warranty.

Amazon Appstore (amazon.com/getappstore):

Google may not always be evil, but they do hate competition. Intended for Kindle users, the Amazon Appstore contains many of the same apps as the official Play store, and also offers regular sales and freebies. Fortunately, the app is still available via Amazon's website.

Comments

@debbiepalm44: Twitter needs them too!

RE: The Vomit Face, The Dislike And The Nobody Cares: Facebook Buttons We'd 'Like', says Metro's Jessica Napier, published Dec. 17

@luxembourg5: OK, the facebook buttons sound great, but enough already about trashing Rob Ford~it gets boring.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:

Send us your comments: halifaxletters@metronews.ca

Hollywood's in for the long con

American Hustle.

Bale's latest role has him playing a con artist who helps the FBI, but with this genre, it's a con that's been seen before



IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

"You're a con artist," wrote Karina Halle in *Sins & Needles*. "A liar. A thief. An unredeemable soul."

She might also have added to that colourful list really interesting movie character.

As despicable as flim flam artists may be, there is no denying they make good film subjects.

This weekend in *American Hustle*, Christian Bale plays Irving Rosenfeld, a con man forced to help the FBI ensnare a group of corrupt politicians in the ABSCAM sting operation.

Although *American Hustle* director David O. Russell says his film is a fictionalized account of events, the ABSCAM operation was headline news in the early 1980s and Hollywood took notice.

In 1982 director Louis Malle was making plans for a May start date on an ABSCAM film called *Moon Over Miami* starring Dan Aykroyd and John Belushi. Belushi was to play Melvin Weinberg, based



Amy Adams and Christian Bale star in *American Hustle*, which opens this weekend. HANDOUT

on the same man as Bale's character in *American Hustle*. The movie was scuttled following Belushi's death in March of that year.

That con man film never saw the light of day, but many others have.

Everyone knows *The Sting* and *The Grifters*, but lesser seen is David Mamet's *The Spanish Prisoner*, a complicated story starring Campbell Scott as Joe Ross, a man who invents a process "to control the world market." Concerned that he will not be

properly compensated for his work he contacts Jimmy Dell (Steve Martin), a wealthy businessman who offers to help. Little does Ross know that he has just stepped into a world of deception that will change his life.

Steve Martin's performance in *The Spanish Prisoner* was Oscar worthy, but it wasn't the first time he played a confidence man on film.

In the comedy *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* he starred opposite Michael Caine as

a scruffy con man trying to muscle in on some high end business on the French Riviera. Caine's suave grifter makes a bet with Martin. Whoever can con Soap Queen Janet Colgate (Glenne Headley) first will walk away with \$50,000.

The movie was written for Mick Jagger and David Bowie who were looking to do a project together after the success of their *Dancing in the Street* video.

The rock stars dropped out before cameras rolled —

Movie review



Stay classy Will Ferrell

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues

Stars. Will Ferrell, Steve Carell

• • • • •
Anchorman 2 may not be as classy (or as funny) as its 2004 progenitor but it's definitely more outrageous. For better or worse, star and co-writer Will Ferrell clearly had free rein with a foolish fable of the hapless broadcaster taking on the televised origin of 24-hour news. Ferrell and his star-studded cast will surely earn laughs — even if the sequel falls short of the original's cohesion.

STEVE GOW/METRO

Bowie later said both were, "a bit tweezed that we lost out on a script that could have been reasonably good" — and replaced by Martin and Caine whose hilarious performances earned the movie a spot on Bravo's 100 Funniest Movies list.

2 SCENE

Your week has 7 days.
Someday isn't one of them.

[taste life]



f /yellowtail



Must be legal drinking age. Watch your tail. Drink responsibly.

colour in your life



Beyoncé. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Beyoncé's new album won't hit the Target

It seems not everyone enjoyed the surprise Beyoncé pulled off with her latest album, which debuted online last week with no prior notice. Retail chain Target, in fact, is refusing to carry the album, according to Billboard.

"At Target we focus on offering our guests a wide assortment of physical CDs, and when a new album is available digitally before it is available physically, it

impacts demand and sales projections," a spokeswoman for the chain says. "While there are many aspects that contribute to our approach and we have appreciated partnering with Beyoncé in the past, we are primarily focused on offering CDs that will be available in a physical format at the same time as all other formats. At this time, Target will not be carrying Beyoncé's new self-titled album Beyoncé."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Lil Wayne isn't dead, but the Internet is ready if he is

THE
WORD
MELINDA TAUB
scene@metronews.ca

At this point, Lil Wayne is basically a superhero, given how many times he's come back from the dead.

Yet another Lil Wayne death rumour was making the rounds on Facebook Tuesday. RIP Rapper Lil Wayne Found Dead, the video reads, before prompting the user to share it before viewing. Not to worry, though — the rapper is alive and well.



It's not clear where this latest rumour springs from (the Inquisitr speculates it could be a Facebook data harvesting scam, since you have to share the video to view it), but it's far from the first time death rumours have swirled around the rapper. The most credible was this summer, when he was hospitalized for seizures and TMZ reported that

he was on his deathbed. However, he recovered.

Why is Lil Wayne such a frequent target of death rumours? Maybe because his real health problems make them quasi-credible. The rapper is epileptic, which is what landed him in the hospital this summer.

"It got real bad because I got three (seizures) in a row, and on the third one my heart rate went down to, like, 30 per cent," he said in a radio interview with Power 106. "Basically, I could've died soon. That's why it was so serious."

I guess he can take some comfort in knowing that if (God forbid) anything ever does happen to him, the Internet has a bunch of In Memoriam videos all ready to go.



Jason Bateman

Bateman urges Aniston to get married

Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux have been getting some well-intentioned pressure to just go ahead and tie the knot already from someone very close to them: good friend Jason Bateman.

"Jason has been one of the biggest cheerleaders for Justin to pull the trigger and marry Jen," a source tells Radar Online.

"Jen has had her own trepidations, too, after her marriage to Brad Pitt failed. But Jason loves both of them to pieces and as a longtime married father of two himself, he's a better example of how to achieve personal happiness in Hollywood."

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Know Your Limit. Play Within It.

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!
If all this white stuff make visions of mogul bumps dance in your head, here are a few exciting developments you should know about for the 2013-2014 ski season.



ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca



Rossland's Red Mountain

Just in time for the 2013/2014 ski season, Red Mountain Resort in Rossland, British Columbia has completed the largest expansion of any ski resort in North America in more than four decades. The development of Grey Mountain means an additional 1,000 acres of mostly intermediate terrain to the existing resort. Part of BC's renowned Powder Highway, Red is a two and a half hour drive from Spokane, Washington and three hours from Kelowna.

5

Perks for powder hounds



Cat tracks and snowshoes

Alberta's Fortress Mountain was closed as a ski resort in 2006. Over the last three years, KPOW (Kananaskis Powder) skiing at Fortress Mountain has brought a cat skiing operation back to sections of the mountain. Ski leaders will tour and teach anyone wanting to take advantage of the eight to 11 metres of annual snowfall. New this year, KPOW is partnering with White Mountain Adventures to offer snowshoeing at Fortress Mountain.



Brand new trails at Blue!

Ontario's premier ski resort, Blue Mountain, has added an additional 64 acres with its Orchard Expansion, which includes six new trails and the latest high-speed chairlift system to get you there. Their lift rate specials are on designated weeks from January to March, but for those spontaneous, flexible souls, Blue Mountain offers a last-minute Hot Deals club that includes the full gamut of accommodations.



Happy 75th Tremblant!

Quebec's Mont Tremblant is turning 75 this year. As part of the anniversary celebrations, the resort has invested \$5 million into The Westin Resort & Spa Tremblant and renovated a number of boutiques and restaurants in the resorts' charming village. The mountain is featuring a long lineup of events throughout the winter including its traditional New Year's Eve party, the official 75th anniversary spring celebrations, the must-attend Caribou Cup, and a new Red Bull signature event that extends over four weekends from March 29 to April 19.



Ski — then stay at La Ferme

If you are planning to hit the slopes of Le Massif de Charlevoix this winter, avoid the 45 minute commute back and forth between Quebec City and stay at the Hôtel La Ferme. Constructed out of an old dairy farm in the middle of a field in Baie-Saint-Paul, this charming hotel is connecting by rail to the ski hills. From the hotel's lobby, skiers can walk into the train station, choose a take-out lunch, hop on the rail shuttle with their skis and get off right at the foot of trails.

3 TIME

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Welcome to another kind of Santa that has lots of gifts to give

Santa Barbara.
California dreamin' starts here with beaches and wine



JIM BYERS
@jimbyerstavel
jimbyerstavel.com

Romantic Spanish architecture. A craggy mountain range. Luscious wineries and incredible local food. And a fabulous beach that's bathed in sunshine almost year-round.

There's a reason that folks like Oprah Winfrey and the late Ronald Reagan set up homes in the area. There's only one highway in town, and traffic is manageable at the worst of times. But you've got southern California weather and southern California beaches and a stunning Spanish mission rising in the hills above town and one of California's prettiest ocean piers, all of it an easy two-hour drive from the freeway madness of Los Angeles.

Doing

The Santa Barbara mission on Laguna Street might be the prettiest of the Spanish missions that dot the state of California. The Santa Barbara courthouse has Moorish influences and fabulous views of the city's famed red-tiled roofs if you go up the tower. Relax, there's an elevator. There's great shopping up

Drinking

One of the great features of Santa Barbara are the wine tasting rooms right downtown, which means you can leave your car at the hotel and sip and spit (yeah, right) to your heart's delight. This part of California is famous for its Pinot Noir (remember Miles in the movie *Sideways*?), as well as deeper reds like Syrah. There's also good Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay. Municipal Winemakers has a tasting room that looks like an industrial warehouse, while Santa Barbara Winery has cute wine gear and olive oil tasting and such treats as Chocolate Zinfandel sauce.

and down State Street and you can get a trolley to take you and up down the road for just 50 cents. So leave your car at your hotel. Wander down to Stearns Wharf and admire the ocean views, or take the Lil' Toot ferry boat on a short ride to the nearby boat harbour. DeeTours of Santa Barbara, run by Sandy Glendinning, offers great city or wine tours.

Sleeping

The Harbor View Inn is a casual but nicely designed property with good-sized rooms. It's directly across the street from the beach and from Stearns Wharf. Terrific wine-tasting rooms



The so-called Funk Zone in Santa Barbara is home to fun shops and a handful of great wineries. PHOTOS: JIM BYERS

and restaurants are also a block away. The Four Seasons Biltmore is a beautifully landscaped property on the beach, just south of downtown. They have more than 2,000 varieties of plants, everything from giant yellow hyacinths and birds of paradise to giant fig trees planted around winding paths with romantic gas lanterns. Expensive, but you'll impress the pants off your significant other.

Dining

Bouchon is an intimate restaurant on Victoria Street with stunning southern California-Mediterranean fare

such as sea bass with risotto and duck on a base of corn, fava beans, smoked bacon and squash. Great wait staff and a super friendly owner. Carlitos on State Street is a great Mexican place with a pretty patio that's just made for margarita tasting. Chuck's Waterfront Grill/The Endless Summer Bar-Café has fabulous views of the harbour and the mountains. They have a nice patio and also a casual bar upstairs. Napkins and menus feature the colourful logo from the classic surf movie *The Endless Summer* as director Bruce Brown lives in the area. Good fish tacos.



The harbour in Santa Barbara is one of the prettiest in California.

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Playa Costa Verde



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Save the jammin' for Jamaica, not your suitcase and carry on

Packing. Keep it light, wrinkle resistant and wear — don't carry — your heaviest shoes

JULIA FURLAN
Metro World News in New York

Packing has to be more than just jamming a bunch of wrinkled clothes into an old duffel bag. As prices for checked bags creep upward (it can cost anywhere between \$25 to \$175 if your suitcase is overweight), knowing how to get where you're going with as little bulk as possible is vital to making your trip a good one.

Donna Smallin Kuper knows a thing or two about tight spaces (and organizational wizardry). She's the author of *The One Minute Organizer*, and a recent convert to the nomadic tribe of RV enthusiasts (she's gone cross-country and

has plans for several stops in 2014.) Kuper says that wrinkles must be out of the question when space is tight. "I don't own an iron anymore," she admits, adding that all of the outfits she packed into her RV were wrinkle-resistant. "When you're selecting outfits, think about what can you roll up and then unroll with virtually no wrinkles," she suggests.

If you can't avoid bringing a blazer or a dress shirt that may wrinkle while packed in a suitcase, Kuper's solution is to use the plastic from the dry cleaner's to line the inside and outside of the piece of clothing. "What happens is that the plastic bag helps prevent it from creasing," she says. "The fabric rolls around the plastic so it's good enough so that you can get where you're going and immediately hang those items and you'll be fine."

When it comes to a love of shoes, Kuper says to start with weight and go from there. "I usually wear my heaviest shoes.

Other tips

- Always travel with a few plastic bags to transport muddy/wet clothes back home.
- Choose a colour scheme for your outfits. "That way everything you bring can mix and match and you don't need as many things."

If I plan to bring boots, I'm going to wear them on my travel days because they take up so much room," she says.

Patrick Smith's love of travel extends beyond his job as a pilot. He's been to more than 80 countries worldwide and recently authored a book, *Ask the Pilot*, based on his blog of the same name. Smith approaches travel with a perspective that's inspiring to anyone who has wrestled with increased security, baggage fees and long lines:

"Airplanes are more than just a means to an end, it's a part of the journey," he says, acknowledging that this carefree attitude is a harder sell now that flying can be a bummer.

Smith has love for the small, neat roller bag he brings with him — and inside is evidence of his black-belt packing experience. He says he has packing down to an art, getting ready for a 10 day, multi-country trip in 25 minutes. His advice starts with the gadgets that ultimately rule our lives: chargers, USB cables, headphones and the like. "I did an inventory on all the stuff that I carry with me now that I didn't carry with me 10 years ago and it's startling," he says. "These things are supposed to make life easier, but they make packing difficult."

Smith suggests keeping all of the technological amenities in one pouch, and to buy a second version of any tech accessories so that you can have one pouch with everything ready to go.



Choose outfits wisely so you're not cramming your clothes. ISTOCK

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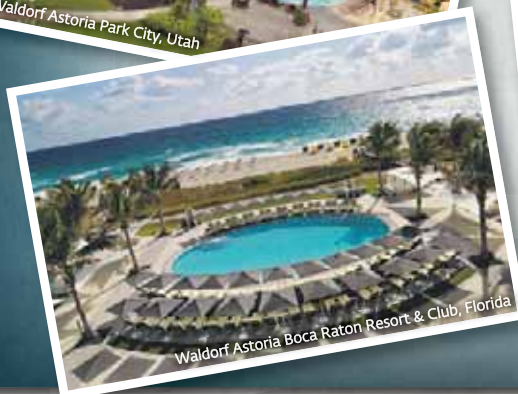
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Chestnuts roasting on an open fire? They'd be happier in these truffles

Who doesn't love chocolate truffles? They are the essence of chocolate, and a sure-fire mood enhancer. Pop even one into your mouth and see if you don't get happy.

1. In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine the chestnuts and water. Bring to boil, then reduce heat to maintain a simmer, cover and cook until the chestnuts are very tender and all the water has been absorbed, about 30 minutes.

2. Add the milk and heat the mixture until it just comes to a simmer. Remove the pan from the heat, add the chocolate, then recover the pan. Let stand off the burner until the chocolate is melted, about 3 to 4 minutes. Stir and transfer to a blender along with the espresso powder, salt, corn syrup and liquor. Blend until very smooth.

3. Transfer to a bowl, cover tightly with plastic wrap and chill until very firm, at least 3

Ingredients

- 5.2-oz pkg roasted and peeled chestnuts, medium chopped
- 3/4 cup water
- 1/3 cup low-fat evaporated milk
- 4 oz bittersweet chocolate, medium chopped
- 1 tsp instant espresso powder or 1 tbsp instant coffee
- Pinch of table salt
- 2 tbsp light corn syrup
- 2 tsp Tia Maria, Kahlua, Baileys, brandy or rum
- 1 tbsp unsweetened cocoa powder

hours. Form the mixture into small balls (about 2 tsp each) and roll the balls in the cocoa powder until they are coated, shaking off the excess. Chill until ready to serve. Will keep, refrigerated, for 2 weeks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/SARA MOULTON, AUTHOR OF SARA MOULTON'S EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS

Spiked Mocha Chestnut Truffles



This recipe makes 20 truffles. MATTHEW MEAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Peppermint Sapphire Splash

- 1 and 1/2 oz Bombay Sapphire
- 1/2 oz Martini Bianco
- 1 and 1/2 oz white cranberry juice
- 1/2 oz peppermint liqueur
- Frozen cranberries

Add all liquid ingredients into a shaker. Add ice and shake hard. Strain mixture into a cocktail glass leaving the ice chips in the glass. Garnish with frozen cranberries.

JEAN-SÉBASTIEN DUPUIS/BOMBAY SAPPHIRE



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Dessert. Blueberry Chocolate Clusters

Ingredients

- 1 cup fresh Chilean blueberries
- 1 cup chocolate chips (dark, milk or white)

until melted. Remove bowl from hot water and gently fold in blueberries.

2. Make clusters by spooning 3-5 warm chocolate coated blueberries onto wax paper, placing them 1 inch apart or spoon mixture into silicone candy molds if you have them. Refrigerate until firm, about 30 minutes.

3. Transfer to an airtight container and refrigerate for up to three days.

NEWS CANADA/THE US HIGHBUSH BLUEBERRY COUNCIL



This recipe makes 18 to 24 clusters. NEWS CANADA

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If you need some inspiration to get ahead, look to the big man in red

Is Santa the employee of the century? He checks his lists twice, he's got the nice thing down, what more can you ask for in a worker?

LEAH RUEHLICKE
TalentEgg.ca

If you're planning on spending some of your holiday downtime on your job search, use the big man himself as someone to model your employable self after.

Not only has he been extremely successful in his career, but he consistently demonstrates a solid work ethic and embodies the qualities of an admirable worker.

Take a look at the top reasons Santa continues to excel

year after year and stands strong as a model employee:

He achieves the impossible

He might be a large man, but he still manages to squeeze down even the tightest of chimneys.

What's your version of impossible? Changing industries, going back to school, getting a position that's outside of your experience?

Have a goal, put your mind to it, and you too can fit in places you never thought possible.

He has a can-do attitude

The whole 'getting around the entire world in one night' detail has stumped the public for centuries — to the point where people use this as the sole reason to stop believing in Santa Claus.

I know, I know.

Think you have too much



Sure it looks like a lot to take on, but Santa's got a can-do attitude when it comes to all tasks, and so should you. ISTOCK

on your plate? Have people telling you you're under-qualified and not skilled enough for what you want to do? You can do anything you set your mind to — just ask Santa.

He asks for what he needs

Santa has one of the busiest jobs around. He has billions of people relying on him to gear up and deliver — literally.

He knows he can do it, but he also knows he might need a little help along the way.

Santa has no shame in ask-

ing for some milk and cookies to give him the energy he needs to power through.

If you feel like you don't have all the tools or training you need to most effectively do your job, speak up!

Your boss wants you to be productive — and if there's something you need help with in order to do just that, they should know about it.

He gives back

Santa never steals the spotlight, constantly paying recognition

to his hardworking elves and reindeer: two very important pieces in the holiday puzzle. Santa couldn't be Santa without a team and he knows that.

Santa also engages. Write him a letter and he will write back!

As we all know, so much of the job market nowadays is dependent on our social channels. Employers will look you up (or engage with you) on LinkedIn, Twitter and beyond. You want to make sure you're doing it right.

Don't make it all about you.

Don't endlessly push your own content without commenting or engaging with other posts as well. Share the spotlight and celebrate people who have helped you get to where you are.

TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

He follows the dress code

He follows the dress code

- It's easy to get too comfortable at a place of employment, or reach that point where you've been there long enough that you start trying to get away with more and more.
- Santa has been doing the same job for what likely feels like forever, yet his outfit never disappoints. After hundreds of years delivering toys across the globe, he still shows up in a suit. Every. Single. Year.
- Think like Santa and you too can ho-ho-hold your head high as a model employee.

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Holiday happiness guide



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HALIFAX

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December 22 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Music - Senior Choir

December 22 ~ 7:00 P.M.

Carols by Candlelight

Shawn Whynot - Organ

Duo Tranquilla, harp and flute

First Baptist Choirs

Lynette Wahlstrom - Director

SPECIAL SERVICES

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Family Service

Featuring the participation of Children and Families

11 p.m. Communion Service

Candlelight, Carols, Quiet Reflection

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Advent & Christmas Schedule

Sunday, December 22, Advent IV

8:00 am Said Holy Communion
10:30 am Choral Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Children & Families' Christmas Pageant. *All are welcome to join this service (no preparation required).*

10:30 pm Special Music with the Blue Engine String Quartet

11:00 pm Midnight Mass with candles and special music

Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:30 am Choral Holy Communion

**Sunday, January 5,
2nd Sunday after Christmas**

8:00 am Said Holy Communion

10:30 am Choral Holy Communion

5:00 pm Nine Lessons & Carols
Music will include works by Howells, Britten, Wishart, and Darke. The service will feature the Parish Choir and the Junior Choir, joined by Ellen Gibling on concert harp.

**Monday, January 6,
The Feast of the Epiphany**

6:00 pm Choral Holy Communion

St. George's Anglican Church
2222 Brunswick Street, Halifax

Phone: 423-1059

Rector: Father George Westhaver
Choir Director: Garth MacPhee
www.roundchurch.ca



Sackville United Baptist Church

Celebrating 181 Years of Service to The Lord

December 22nd

10:30am - 11:30am

Christmas Cantata Service

December 24th

7pm - 8pm

Family Christmas Eve
Candle Light Service



Sackville United Baptist Church
1240 Old Sackville Road
Middle Sackville, NS
Phone: 902-865-3681



Saint Benedict Roman Catholic Church

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We welcome you to our Christmas & New Year's Celebrations

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Dec 24: 7:30pm • 11:00pm

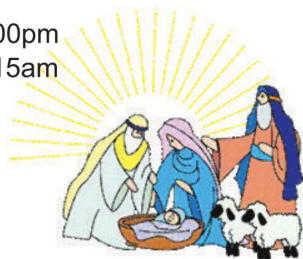
Christmas Day, Dec 25: 9:00am • 11:15am

New Year's Day Mass Schedule

Jan 1: 9:00am • 11:15am

New Year's Levee

Jan 1: 12:30pm-1:30pm



Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

No 12:15 pm Mass

8:00 pm Mass • *Carols at 7:30 pm*

11:00 pm Mass • *Organ recital at 10:10 pm; Carols at 10:30 pm*

Christmas Day

7:30 am • 10:30 am • No 5:15 pm Mass

No confessions

New Year's Eve

12:15 pm Daily Mass

4:00 pm Anticipated Mass of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Day

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

7:30 am • 10:00 am (*note changed time*) • 5:00 pm

Archbishop's Levee in the Cathedral Hall:

11:00 am-12:00pm



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Sunday Dec 22

10am

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday December 24

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10:30am Worship**

**Sunday,
December 29th
10:30am Worship**

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21st
7 PM

22nd
10:30 AM

 Rock Church
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rockchurch.ca

Christmas Eve Services
celebrating the season

24th
5 PM

24th
7 PM

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Moose mulling over trade-period moves

QMJHL. The Herd's GM isn't ruling out adding an enforcer-type player to the mix



ANDREW RANKIN

andrew.rankin@metronews.ca

If the price is right, the Halifax Mooseheads could pull the trigger on a significant deal with the trade period just around the corner.

"It all depends if things come together," general manager Cam Russell said on Tuesday. "We are open to making a move, but it will have to depend on what it costs and how certain guys play. We're still evaluating some of our guys and we'll make decisions in the next couple of weeks."

The annual trade period gets underway Sunday and runs until Jan 7.

Fans have been calling on the team to acquire an enforcer-type player, particularly after star forward Jonathan Drouin suffered a concussion after being hit from behind by Quebec Remparts forward Adam Erne on Dec. 6. The league decided against a suspension, which the Mooseheads unsuccessfully appealed.

Russell wouldn't say what type of player the club's after but he didn't rule out acquiring a tough guy.

"I'm not going to say yes or no. Both times Jonathan was hit illegally we've had separate



The Tigres' Gabriel Gagne lands a check on the Mooseheads' Jonathan Drouin in a game on Dec. 5. JEFF HARPER/METRO

players respond and stick up for Jonathan. I think we have a good group of guys that like each other and want to stand up for each other.

"The other side of that is we have to have the league protecting the players as well and making the right calls."

Russell said he's largely satisfied with where his team

currently stands. The Herd currently sits in fourth place in league standings with a record of 23-12-0-1.

"We've had some serious injuries this season and for the last six or seven weeks we've held on to the No. 2 spot in the league. We've got a good hockey team."

And then there's the reality

of a limited pool of players to choose from.

"There are 10 or 11 teams out there that think they are a trade or two away from being a contender," said Russell.

"There are only a couple of teams that are selling right now, so there's not a whole lot out there and prices are very high."

Ashley ready to return

Mooseheads co-captain Darcy Ashley (upper-body injury) is expected to return to the lineup in Friday's road game versus the Moncton Wildcats.

Ex-Huskies coach focused on leading Canada to gold

Lisa Haley isn't chasing down a seven-figure coaching contract as she prepares for the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

Nor will the players making up Team Canada's women's hockey team.

But they and the Westville, Pictou County, native, who will be serving as the squad's assistant coach, will be chasing down a dream.

"It's the same as players as it is for us as coaches in the women's game," said Haley. "We want to always be challenging ourselves to reach our full potential. We're chasing that Olympic dream. We're all motivated by the same means."

Up until Tuesday, when Hockey Canada named former NHL player and head coach Kevin Dineen as Team Canada's new bench boss, there was some speculation that Haley might fill the vacancy.

But Haley says she fully supports Hockey Canada's decision.

"Kevin brings a lot. He's a player who's had an opportunity to represent Canada on the junior team and at the Olympics. He's paid his dues as much as I have; he's had a much harder road on the men's side of the game. I don't feel slighted in any way."

Haley, who coached the



Canada's assistant coaches Lisa Haley, left, and Danielle Goyette at a recent practice. LARRY MACDOUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Saint Mary's women's team for 14 seasons and to four AUS championships, has a

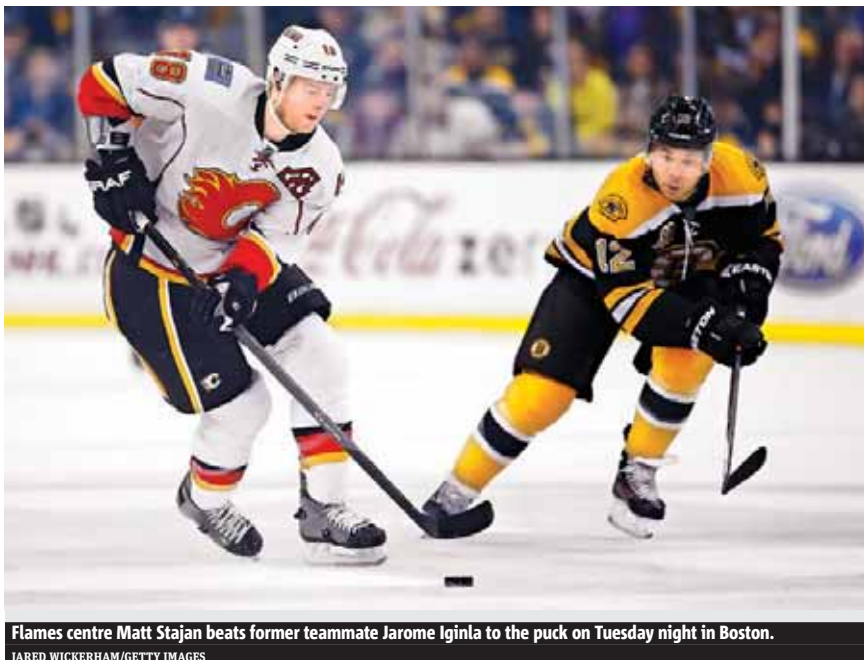
profound connection with her home province.

"I'm very proud of coming

from small-town Nova Scotia. I've spent a lot of time in Halifax. I want everyone in Halifax and in my hometown of Westville to know that I'm a byproduct of being raised in those environments. I've taken my licks with Saint Mary's."

And she's more than OK dealing with the overwhelming pressure for Canada to capture gold in Sochi.

"This is Canada and hockey is our sport. We want to be the best. It's not as if we feel like we're letting the country down if we don't win gold. We're letting ourselves down if we don't win gold." ANDREW RANKIN/METRO



Flames centre Matt Stajan beats former teammate Jarome Iginla to the puck on Tuesday night in Boston.

JARED WICKERHAM/GETTY IMAGES

Iggy factors into Flames' latest loss

NHL. Former Calgary captain sets up pair in Bruins' shutout victory

Zdeno Chara scored two power-play goals and Jarome Iginla had a pair of assists against his former team to help the Boston Bruins beat the Calgary Flames 2-0 on Tuesday night.

David Krejci also had two assists and Tuukka Rask made 21 saves for the Bruins in their third-straight shutout of the Flames in Boston. Rask picked up his third shutout of the season and extended Calgary's scoreless streak in Boston to

On Tuesday	
2	0
Bruins	Flames

189 minutes, 36 seconds.

Reto Berra kept Calgary close, stopping 29 shots as the Bruins controlled play most of the game.

Boston outshot the Flames 31-21 one week after rallying for a 2-1 win in Iginla's return to Calgary, where he played 16 seasons and spent nine as the team's captain.

Iginla didn't get a point in his first game as a visitor against the Flames, but was a big part of the Boston power play Tuesday.

Krejci and Iginla set up Chara's slap shot from the point that beat Berra and put the Bruins ahead 7:38 into the second period. Lance Bouma was serving a double-minor for high-sticking, then was called for another high stick in the third shortly before Boston made it 2-0 on another goal by Chara.

Krejci started the play again with a pass to Iginla, whose shot from the left circle wound up between Chara's skates for an easy poke into the net with 16:41 left. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

NBA

Kobe finds shooting stroke in Memphis

Kobe Bryant scored 21 points in his sixth game of the season, and the Los Angeles Lakers closed out a four-game road trip with a 96-92 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies on Tuesday night. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

CFL

Blue Bombers bringing back OC Bellefeuille

The Winnipeg Blue Bombers are bringing back offensive co-ordinator Marcel Bellefeuille next season. New Blue Bombers head coach Mike O'Shea made the announcement Tuesday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Para-biathlon

Islander Arendz wins in Canmore

Canada's Mark Arendz backed up a silver-medal finish on Sunday's middle distance race by winning the gold medal on Tuesday in the para-biathlon at the IPC World Cup in Canmore, Alta. Arendz, is from Springton, P.E.I. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	34	23	9	2	94	70	48
Montreal	36	21	12	3	91	76	45
Tampa Bay	34	20	11	3	93	82	43
Detroit	36	15	12	9	91	99	39
Toronto	36	17	16	3	99	105	37
Ottawa	35	14	15	6	99	113	34
Florida	35	13	17	5	81	110	31
Buffalo	34	8	23	3	59	98	19

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	35	24	10	1	108	75	49
Washington	34	18	13	3	107	102	39
Carolina	34	14	13	7	79	94	35
Philadelphia	34	15	15	4	81	93	34
NY Rangers	34	16	17	1	76	91	33
New Jersey	34	13	15	6	78	85	32
Columbus	34	14	16	4	87	95	32
NY Islanders	35	9	19	7	85	121	25

Tuesday's results

Boston 2 Calgary 0
Buffalo 4 Winnipeg 2
Tampa Bay 3 NY Islanders 2 (SO)
Florida 3 Toronto 1
Anaheim 5 Detroit 2
Montreal 3 Phoenix 1
Philadelphia 5 Washington 2
Minnesota 3 Vancouver 2 (SO)
San Jose 4 St. Louis 2
Chicago 3 Nashville 1
Dallas 3 Colorado 2
Edmonton at Los Angeles

Monday's results

Winnipeg 3 Columbus 2
Pittsburgh 3 Toronto 1
Ottawa 3 St. Louis 2 (OT)
Colorado 6 Dallas 2

Wednesday's games

All Times Eastern

Ottawa at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at NY Rangers, 8 p.m.

Thursday's games

Phoenix at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Boston at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Nashville at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	37	25	7	5	138	102	55
St. Louis	33	22	7	4	114	80	48
Colorado	33	22	10	1	96	78	45
Minnesota	36	20	11	5	84	83	45
Dallas	33	16	12	5	95	101	37
Nashville	34	16	15	3	78	95	35
Winnipeg	36	15	16	5	95	106	35

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	36	24	7	5	116	91	53
San Jose	34	21	7	6	112	84	48
Los Angeles	34	22	8	4	94	68	48
Vancouver	36	20	10	6	100	86	46
Phoenix	33	18	10	5	105	103	41
Calgary	34	13	16	5	86	108	31
Edmonton	35	11	21	3	93	120	25

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Florida at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Montreal at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.
San Jose at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's games

Anaheim at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Washington at Carolina, 7 p.m.
NY Islanders at NY Rangers, 7 p.m.
Florida at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Chicago, 8 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pts
Crosby, Pgh	19	28	47
Kane, Chi	19	26	45
Malkin, Pgh	9	32	41
Getzlaf, Ana	16	23	39
Ovechkin, Wash	27	10	37
Tavares, NYI	13	24	37
Perry, Ana	21	15	36
Backstrom, Wash	8	28	36
Steen, STL	22	13	35
Thornton, SJ	5	30	35
Seguin, Dal	18	15	33
Kunitz, Pgh	17	16	33
Sharp, Chi	16	17	33
Kessel, Tor	17	15	32
Ryan, Ott	16	16	32

Not including last night's games

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Indiana	20	4	.833	—
d-Miami	18	6	.750	2
Atlanta	13	12	.520	7 ^{1/2}
d-Boston	12	14	.462	9
Detroit	12	14	.462	9
Charlotte	11	14	.440	9 ^{1/2}
Washington	10	13	.435	9 ^{1/2}
Toronto	9	13	.409	10
Chicago	9	14	.391	10 ^{1/2}
Cleveland	9	15	.375	11
Brooklyn	9	15	.375	11
Orlando	8	17	.320	12 ^{1/2}
New York	7	17	.292	13
Philadelphia	7	19	.269	14
Milwaukee	5	19	.208	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Portland	22	4	.846	—
Oklahoma City	20	4	.833	1
d-San Antonio	19	5	.792	2
d-L.A. Clippers	17	9	.654	5
Houston	16	9	.640	5 ^{1/2}
Phoenix	14	9	.609	6 ^{1/2}
Denver	14	10	.583	7
Dallas	14	10	.583	7
Golden State	13	12	.520	8 ^{1/2}
New Orleans	11	11	.500	9
Minnesota	12	13	.480	9 ^{1/2}
L.A. Lakers	12	13	.480	9 ^{1/2}
Memphis	10	14	.417	11
Sacramento	7	16	.304	13 ^{1/2}
Utah	6	21	.222	16 ^{1/2}

x - clinched playoff berth; y - division; z - conference.

Tuesday's results

Portland 119 Cleveland 116
Charlotte 95 Sacramento 87
L.A. Lakers 96 Memphis 92
Oklahoma City 105 Denver 93
New Orleans at Golden State

Monday's results

Detroit 101 Indiana 96
Boston 101 Minnesota 97
Atlanta 114 L.A. Lakers 100
Miami 117 Utah 94
Washington 102 New York 101
Brooklyn 130 Philadelphia 94
Orlando 83 Chicago 82
L.A. Clippers 115 San Antonio 92

NHL

Voracek paces Flyers past Ovechkin's Caps

Former Halifax Moosehead Jakub Voracek scored two goals and the Philadelphia Flyers beat the Washington Capitals 5-2 Tuesday night.

Mark Streit, Wayne Simmonds and Matt Read also had goals for the Flyers.

Alex Ovechkin and Eric Fehr scored for Washington.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Leafs make it two in a row with loss to lowly Panthers

A night after hanging with the mighty Penguins, the Maple Leafs struggled to keep up with the lowly Panthers.

Playing its second half of back-to-back games, Toronto lacked sufficient buzz and made plenty of mistakes in a 3-1 loss to Florida. Turnovers led to each of the Panthers' goals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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- 6 Classified Pay Day
- 5 Rihanna What Now
- 4 One Direction Story of My Life
- 3 John Newman Love Me Again
- 2 Pitbull ft Ke\$ha Timber
- 1 Eminem ft Rihanna The Monster

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End the Soul searching with Kia



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Review. New looks, new platform, but the same ...

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

It has a lot of new in it, on it and under it, but unless you're really paying attention, you might not realize it.

On the surface, you have to wonder about the time and money spent to build the 2014 Kia Soul, but it's really no different than with brands such as Mini that spend millions on a new car that looks much the same as before. That's "the brand" after all.

The Mini has more history than the Soul, but the Soul is no less unique and there is a certain cachet about it. Only a handful of models have tried to match the Soul's artful shape since it arrived for the 2011 model year.

For the mid-cycle refresh, Kia's California and Korea-based design teams used the 2012 Track'ster concept show vehicle as a starting point. They did tone down that bit of zaniness (a two-door wagon doesn't cut it out in the real world), but a number of shape-shifting elements were passed along to the 2014 Soul. The Soul's overall packaging has also been upsized a bit. The distance between the front and rear wheels increases by about 2.5 centimetres while about 1.5-centimetres has been added to the width.

These changes, along with a slight body-height reduction, give the Soul a more planted ap-

pearance. On the practical side, cargo space has been increased slightly (with the rear seats up or folded flat) and the liftgate opening is now six centimetres wider.

The added size comes from a new platform that's larger and considerably stiffer (by 29 per cent). Combined with a numerous suspension revisions, Kia claims the 2014 Soul is quieter and has an improved ride that performs more smoothly over bumps and undulations.

Also adding to the cabin's allure is a thoroughly revised and upgraded dashboard, control panel and seat coverings. Nearly all of the plasticity bits are now covered in/replaced with soft-touch materials, as are the door panels. The steering wheel resembles a game-console controller, but at least the controls are large enough to be activated by average-sized digits.

Both of the Soul's four-cylinder engine choices return for 2014, albeit in slightly revised form. The base 1.6-litre unit is rated at 130 horsepower and 118 pound-feet of torque (previously 138/123), while the optional 2.0-litre four-cylinder returns with the same 164 horsepower as before, but with a slight increase in torque. Kia says both powerplants make more torque in lower rev ranges for better around-town performance.

With an \$18,700 starting price (including destination charges), the base Soul LX covers the basics, but includes heated outside mirrors, six-speaker audio system and Bluetooth short-range wireless networking.

Along with the larger en-

2014 Kia Soul

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact wagon
- **Engines (hp).** 1.6-litre DOHC I4 (130); 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (164)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual; six-speed automatic (opt. with 1.6; std. with 2.0)
- **Base price (incl. destination).** \$18,700

Design

In front, a revised "bulldog" nose and enlarged grille adds greater definition, while at the opposite end the Track'ster-inspired boomerang-shaped taillights appear to be floating inside the rear glass, as does the rear body panel built into the liftgate. The effect is simply brilliant.

Fuel economy

The 1.6 comes with a six-speed manual transmission or optional six-speed automatic, but the 2.0 is only available with the automatic. The 1.6 is rated at 6.5 l/100 km in the city and 8.6 on the highway with the manual gearbox (6.6/8.5 with the automatic).



The Kia Soul's new cabin has less plastic and a button laden steering wheel.

Compare



1 Fiat 500L
Base price: \$21,700



2 Nissan Cube
Base price: \$19,100



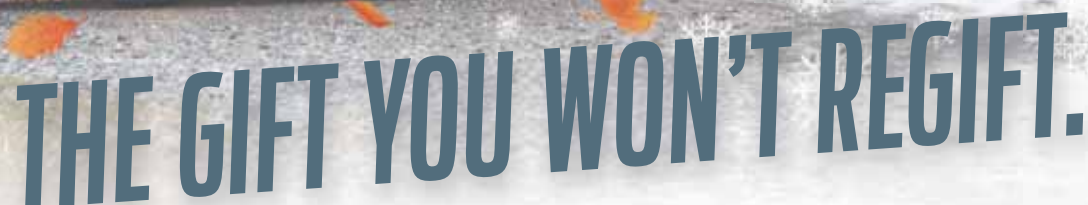
3 Hyundai Veloster
Base price: \$21,000

gine and standard air conditioning and automatic transmission, the mid-range EX adds keyless entry, cruise control, heated front seats and 17-inch alloy wheels (16-inch steel wheels are standard).

Atop the Soul trim trio, the SX has 18-inch wheels and power-folding mirrors, while the interior comes with dual-zone climate control, leather seat covers, push-button start, a chilled glove box and a rear-view camera.

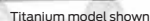
The options list is truly extensive and covers off a navigation system with 20-centimetre touch-screen, power-sliding panoramic sunroof, 10-way power driver's seat and premium Infinity-brand sound package.

Taken in its entirety, the Soul, like the Mini Cooper, is set up to be a niche brand unto itself with a wide range of pricing and options and, of course, that unmistakable "Soul-ness."



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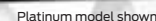
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Titanium model shown

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Three ways to beat the winter driving blues

Fun, diversity and technology. Enjoy the shaky ride and the skill involved to control in harsh conditions while appreciating the tires that help you do so



AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Seems to me it's just as crucial to prepare your mood for winter driving as it is to prepare your vehicle for winter driving.

This occurred to me last weekend as I drove through a winter storm, or at least what the weather media elite here in Central Canada now call a winter storm. Could be wrong, but didn't we once just call this type of thing "winter"? Anyways, here are three ways you might adjust your mood, to be the boss of winter driving, and not the other way around...

Realize the Fun Factor

It's not a wintery mess, it's an



Joe Hallett of the British rubber development firm, ARTIS, holds the concept tire commissioned by Canadian Tire. It's sidewall turns blue at 7 degrees C, when it's time to get into the winter tire mood. PHOTO: CANADIAN TIRE

opportunity to get the vehicle a little "loose" on the snow. And that's fun. Well, fun until you hit something hard, and a lot of people in uniforms come calling. Sliding around an empty, snow-covered parking lot, used to be the time-honoured way teenage boys learned car control. Put on some Twisted Sister and give it a try. Even if you don't have a run-off safety

zone or empty parking lot at your disposal, just revel in the extra brain energy it takes to drive on slippery surfaces. It's engaging, entertaining and probably at least as effective in staving off dementia as doing crossword puzzles.

Appreciate the Diversity of Driving Talent

Nothing separates the good

driver from the duffer like a snowy road. The speed differential between a person who knows how to drive in the snow, with a vehicle equipped for such, versus a person who has no clue, with a vehicle with even less of clue, is really quite amazing. If you're the former, and following the latter and can't pass, it can be one of the most exasperat-

ing driving scenarios you'll every encounter. It's the driving equivalent of having your recess time cut into, because your teacher won't release the whole class until everybody has their coats on, and some of your classmates are still confounded by the physics of zippers. Instead of seething and showing off your excellent vocabulary of

four-letter words, why not just revel in the diversity, and let patience and the pride of your superior driving abilities be your predominant state of mind.

Leverage the Technology

Winter tire technology has shot up lately. They used to be quite a bit better in the cold, slush and snow than all-seasons. Now they're crazy better. They take a winter weakling of a vehicle and turn it into a minor superhero of a winter vehicle, and driving a superhero is definitely mood-altering. And we'd like to give props to Canadian Tire, for being the first to commission the development of an all-season tire that actually changes colour at 7 degrees Celsius, the point at which they start to struggle, by becoming less pliable and less able to grip the road. It's your signal that it's time to swap them for those super capable winters.

Interestingly, the technology is not unlike a mood ring. When the temperature drops, your mood is susceptible to drop too. But it doesn't have to — mind bend it the other way.

Winter gas: The blend of the festive season

Higher RVP. Reid Vapour Pressure levels are higher in the fuel used during the cold months to ensure easier starts for vehicles

JIL MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca

Just as the weather changes from summer to winter, so does gasoline. Stations are now selling winter gas, specially blended for the season.

"Winter gas can have a higher RVP, or Reid Vapor Pressure," says Wayne Moorehead, marketing manager for Canadian Tire Petroleum. "That is a measurement of the volatility of the fuel, and how subject it is to evaporation. In winter, you want a fuel that has higher volatility, because it's easier for the vehicle to start."

But there's more to it than that, and it comes down to government-mandated emissions standards. There are several places

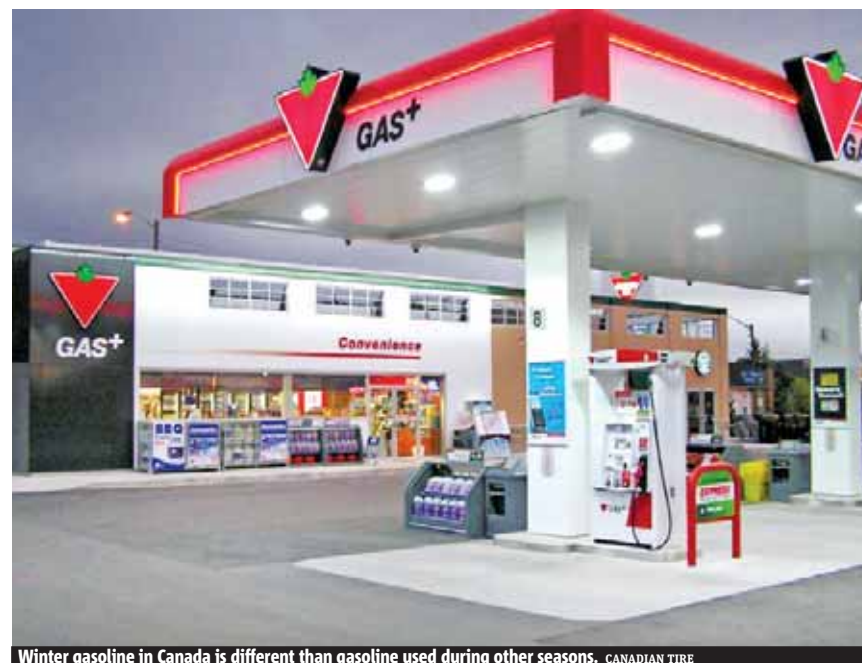
Tips

- **Manual.** Go by the octane recommendation in your owner's manual. If you only need 87-octane regular fuel, there's no need to use premium.

- **Location, location.** Be smart when fuel-shopping. You'll burn up a few cents difference if the cheaper station is far away, or there's a long line at the pumps.

where gasoline vapours can enter the atmosphere: at the station when you're filling up, out of the filler neck if your gas cap isn't tight, and possibly out of the tailpipe, if small amounts of unburned fuel make their way back there.

Gasoline evaporates faster when the outside temperature is hot. A fuel with lower RVP—one that's refined specifically to evaporate more slowly—is less likely to send harmful emissions into the air, and so the



Winter gasoline in Canada is different than gasoline used during other seasons. CANADIAN TIRE

mandated standards require refineries to make lower-RVP fuel for sale during the summer months.

However, lower-RVP fuel requires a different refin-

ing process. It's costlier to make, and Moorehead says it's tougher to produce the large quantities of fuel needed in winter. Since gasoline naturally evaporates

more slowly at cold temperatures, the emissions standards allow for higher-RVP fuel to be sold in the winter.

When it's cold out, some drivers worry about their

fuel freezing up. However, it's far less of a problem now that cars have fuel injection, rather than carburetors, which were far more likely to experience issues with their fuel lines icing up.

Keeping your fuel tank full will help prevent water in the gas, which is the stuff that freezes. "Drive on the top half of the tank, not the bottom half," Moorehead says.

"A fuller tank has less area for condensation to take place, and having more fuel will spread out any water that is in there. People should also make sure the fuel cap fits properly, too. If you have a loose cap and it's not sealed properly, there's an opportunity for moisture to get in."

That full tank could also help ensure your safety. Cars generally get poorer mileage in the winter, and if the weather turns bad or traffic backs up, your commute could take much longer than normal. If your tank is close to empty, you could run out of gas and be left stranded.

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GT model with Technology Package shown. Certain features available only on 2014 Mazda3 GS and GT models.

Stars of the future hit Hollywood

Autoknow. It's OK to dream in California but the real stuff out of LA is just as good

TODD D. BURLAGE
wheelbasemedia.com

Stars and cars, flash and cash. The 2013 Los Angeles Auto Show didn't disappoint with its usual blend of style and speed, all gracing dozens of stages throughout the Los Angeles Convention Center.

From gaudy and showy to practical and ecological, nearly 50 production vehicles made worldwide and U.S. debuts alongside the launches of about a dozen fresh concepts.

With the global economy continuing to show signs of life, an estimated 1,000,000 spectators passed through the turnstiles during the 10-day event (Nov. 22 to Dec. 1) that unofficially kicks off the North American auto-show season every fall.

Automakers pulled out all the horsepower and star-power to attract both thrifty and lavish new-car buyers this year in an ultra-competitive market.

Tennis great Maria Sharapova climbed from the driver's seat of the new 2015 Porsche Macan during its unveiling — one of the most anticipated world debuts at the show — while NBA star Blake Griffin of the Los Angeles Clippers was in house to promote a long list of vehicles Kia brought to L.A.

Sharing the same opening date as the 2013 Tokyo Motor Show, the L.A. Auto Show had to share some of the international headlines, but not enough to diminish the importance and influence this West Coast vehicle expo traditionally has on the approaching auto season.

So, what's new?

When it comes to cars and California, enough is never enough in terms of styling, luxury and technology. Last year's message of conservative efficiency took a backseat this year to speed, power, status and excess.

The sleek and sexy 2015 Jaguar F-Type Coupe emerged as the headline act among the debut vehicles. Not even TV mogul Simon Cowell and supermodel Miranda Kerr could hold audience attention as the new Jaguar Coupe made its grand debut with a full-throttle, ear-busting entrance into the arena while the two stars stood nearby.



Arguably the star of the show was the striking Mercedes Benz Vision Gran Turismo.



The Ford Edge concept also looked very impressive.

Ready for spring of 2015, the best version of what is essentially a hardtop version of the two-seat F-Type roadster features a 550-horsepower supercharged V8 that propels it to 100 km/h from zero in 4.0 seconds and to a top speed of 298 km/h. For those with slightly smaller budgets, Porsche countered with its own show-stopper in the 2015 Macan, a compact tall wagon that combines pizzazz, performance and nearly endless customization options. Porsche debuted two Macan models in L.A. with differing V6 powerplants: the 300-horsepower Macan S; and the 400-horsepower Macan Turbo. The Turbo goes from standstill to 100 km/h in 4.6 seconds. Both models are scheduled to arrive at Canadian dealerships late in the spring of 2015, with base pricing set at \$54,300 (Canadian funds) for the S and \$82,200 for the Turbo. For the more blue-collar driver, Chevrolet launched its 2015 Colorado in the hopes of rejuvenating a rather stagnant mid-size pickup truck segment. Based on a new global truck platform first shown two years ago, Chevy believes the versatile Colorado will rival the popular small pickups from Toyota and Nissan, and appeal to people with active lifestyles who aren't interested in a car or a full-size truck. Quiet, comfortable and rugged (according to Chevy), the Colorado will initially offer a 2.5-litre four-cylinder



Honda's extremely futuristic-looking concept, the FCEV, definitely got tongues wagging with its unusual yet sleek design



The Jaguar F-Type Coupe was one of the headlining acts in Los Angeles, and rightfully so.



Tennis star Maria Sharapova helped to introduce the Porsche Macan. ALL IMAGES WHEELBASE

and a 3.6-litre V6. A six-speed automatic transmission is standard, but a six-speed manual is also available (for four-cylinder Work Truck models only) and a 2.8-litre turbo-diesel option will be added to the Colorado catalogue for the 2016 model year. Pricing has yet to be set.

So, What else?

Production models weren't the only vehicles making headlines at the L.A. Auto Show as the usual parade of quirky and fascinating concept vehicles drew plenty of attention. By far, the Mercedes-Benz Vision Gran Turismo created the most chatter. This striking sports car features gull-wing doors and was designed to resemble a big cat on the hunt with a blend of some old-school classic Mercedes race cars nicely blended in. Inspiration for the design came from the new Gran Turismo 6 video game. And while there are no plans for a production version of this car, a few design ideas are expected to find some future Mercedes models, especially the replacement for the SLS AMG that's at the end of the road. Honda offered a glimpse into its long-term commitment to improving hydrogen fuel-cell technology and performance — and perhaps a hint at the direction of some futuristic sci-fi looking model designs —

Correction

In last week's AutoKnow we said the services of Canada Drive Away costed "typically not more than \$500." It should have read not less than \$500. Metro apologizes for the error.

with its FCEV. This creative concept is powered by a hydrogen fuel "stack" that converts hydrogen to electricity. Instead of plugging in at night as you might with a battery powered car, you just make sure the tank is full of hydrogen and you're good to go. No "range anxiety," as long as there's hydrogen around. Honda plans to have it ready for production and launch sometime in 2015. And with an eye to the longer-term, Ford pulled the curtain on its Edge concept, which is a vehicle that takes a couple more steps toward full vehicle autonomy with its use of ultrasonic sensors. It features a fully-assisted parking aid that can be activated from inside the vehicle or by remote control and will prompt the car to navigate into and out of a parking space, with no driver assistance. The LA Auto Show might never attract the media or industry interest of the annual show in Detroit (coming up in January). But when it comes to celebrating big names and memorable debuts, nobody does it better than the folks



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Parts department

WHEELBASE MEDIA

Small-sized, big power

It used to be that most portable power chargers used for starting vehicles with dead batteries were big and bulky and weighed a ton. That seems to be all in the past with the PowerAll power bank. This handy device holds enough juice to charge or start any 12-volt system using its own cable clamps, yet it's small enough (16 by 7.5- by 3.0 centimetres) to fit inside most glove boxes. The PowerAll's two USB computer ports can simultaneously charge up your cell phone plus other electronic devices and its built-in flashlight/flashing signal light offers significant illumination for up to 120 hours on a full charge. Check out the PowerAll at thepowerall.com and purchase the product for US \$100 at amazon.com.



VW vans for kids

If you're looking for something to keep your small fry amused, check out this cool pop-up play tent that resembles a scaled-down 1965 Volkswagen Camper-van. Suitable for both indoor and outdoor activities, the 166 by 53 by 76-centimetre tent is waterproof, constructed of fire-retardant materials and offers UV protection. Access is through a zippered entrance, while the mesh windows let in fresh air and can be easily covered up if necessary for protection from the elements. When not in use, the tent stores in a neat carrying pack that looks like an actual-size VW wheel-and-tire combo. The Campervan tent is available in blue or red and is available online and at retail outlets such as Bed Bath & Beyond for \$70 in Canadian funds.



Collect wrecked rides

Model making is a passion for many car nuts, with most hobbyists assembling scale replicas of those pristine classics you'll find at most typical weeknight show-and-shine events. However, model maker John Findra, who is the proprietor of Classic Wrecks, prefers to portray his favourites as if they had been discovered in someone's barn or field. Findra begins with basic model kits that are available in most hobby stores. He then finishes each one so that it appears in an abandoned, rusted-out and generally neglected condition. The results are amazing, as you will discover after visiting his Web site that displays classic Chevrolets, Mustangs, Dodges, Pontiacs, etc. There are even a few distressed import cars. Prices run in the US



\$85-\$100 range for each of these unusual pieces of automotive art. Shop the lot at etsy.com/shop/classicwrecks.

A box of wooden goodies

"Woody's" began as wood-formed wagon bodies attached to truck frames that were used primarily for commercial duty. Eventually they evolved into option packages using both wood and metal attached to wagons, convertibles and sedans. Now you can learn all there is to know about these highly collectable vehicles with Featherston's Treasure Box of Classic Woody's. This 400-page tome covers the history of these vehicles in words and pictures dating back to the turn on the 20th century. Also included is a special box with woody-themed postcards, toys, postage stamps, licence plate tags and decals. The box itself weighs about nine kilograms and can be reconfigured as a small garage to house scale-model woody's. The large US \$500 price is reasonable since only 500 copies are planned. Visit: df-woodybook.com.





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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

You will get exactly what you deserve today: no more and no less. If the rewards are good don't doubt that you have earned them; and if the rewards are not so good then aim to do better next time.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

You will have to do something that makes you unpopular but if you don't do it now you may have to do something twice as bad later on.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Money matters may be causing you concern but other aspects indicate you can still have lots of fun. Besides, if you keep too tight a hold of the purse strings now you may have to spend more later.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

The important thing today is that you don't over-extend yourself physically, financially or emotionally. Know your limits and stay within them.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Cosmic activity in positive areas of your chart urges you to open up and let friends and family know what you need in terms of both material wellbeing and emotional support.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

People will be demanding of you today and there may come a time when you realize you are being taken for a ride. The fact is they could have done most of these things for themselves if they wanted to. Make them wish they had.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

At some stage today your frustration is likely to bubble over and you will say or do something that you later regret. But, even so, it's good to remind those around you that your patience is finite.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You won't get things all your own way today, especially on the home front where partners and loved ones are anything but reasonable. The good news is this is only a passing phase.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

There will be a setback concerning a money matter or business deal and you won't be happy about it. But it is worth getting worked up about?

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

It seems you are stuck with a decision you took a while back and would do anything to get yourself out of now. That might just be possible today but the planets warn it won't come cheap.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Delays of one sort or another are likely over the next 24 hours but while it may be frustrating it could also inspire you to try a different route.

Pisces

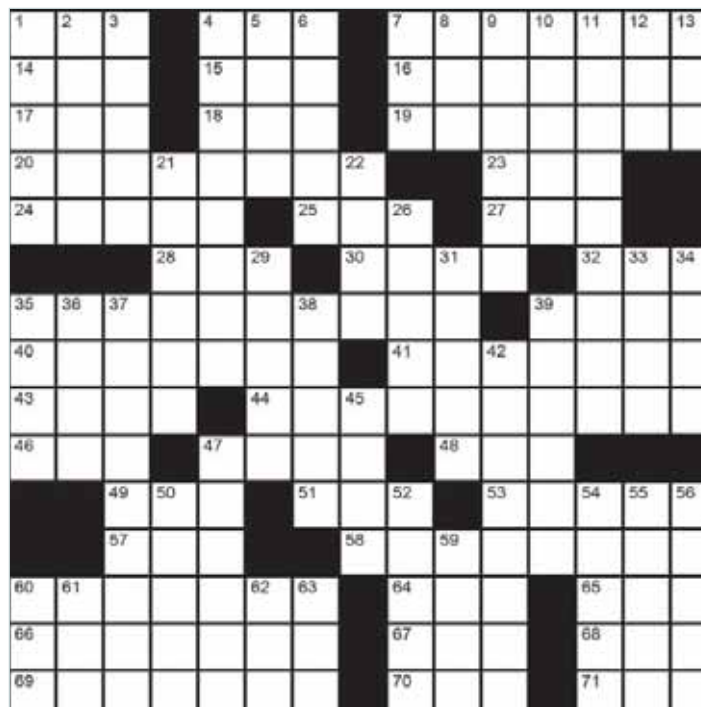
Feb. 20 - March 20

You seem to have lost your way a little and the planets suggest you swallow your pride and ask someone who knows what they are doing to help you. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

1. 15, 30 or 50, e.g.
4. Opening
7. Truck
14. Airport sched. word
15. British singer Rita
16. By mistake: 2 wds.
17. ___disant (Self-styled)
18. Martini ingredient
19. Canadian comic book superheroine, ___ of the Northern Lights
20. Saskatchewan city east of Saskatoon
23. Driver's proof, e.g.
24. Improvise
25. Sushi tuna
27. Tattoo artist's supply
28. "___ guy walks into..."
30. Botanist Mr. Gray's
32. Sports org.
35. Michael J. Fox, e.g.: 2 wds.
39. Earth's inner
40. Where Zagreb is the capital
41. Acquiesces
43. Er, I don't know-ish
44. Winter resort accommodations: 2 wds.
46. Literary fairy queen
47. Molt
48. Fashionable



monogram

49. Freelancer's encl.

51. Six, in Italy

53. Entire

57. No Scrubs group

58. Canadian hockey brothers Phil or Tony

60. Mercy Mercy Me (The ___)

by Marvin Gaye

64. Playboy Man-

sion's man, for short

65. Dorothy, to pals

66. Encounter: 2 wds.

67. Goof

68. Bug kind

69. Alberta village,

home of the World's

Largest Pyrogy

70. Actor Mr. Knight,

et al.

71. Uncle on Seinfeld

Down

1. Alexander's nick-

name

2. Peacock's feeling

3. Czech composer,

Rudolf ___

4. 1960s dancer's

outfit part: 2 wds.

5. Botanical 'coat'

6. Zoo attraction

7. Wine: French

8. Compass†point

9. Steve McQueen

war movie, ___ for

Heroes (1962)

10. Dick ___, legendary

Montreal Canadiens

coach

11. De-cypher: 2 wds.

12. Mr. Chaney

13. Period

21. France/Spain: Bay

of ___

22. "Take ___!"

26. Hero of Upper

Canada, Sir ___ Brock

(b.1769 - d.1812)

29. TLC's Breaking ___

31. Like a shoe's

support

33. Guitar bar

34. Not as much

35. Pond guck

36. ___ S. Rombauer

(Joy of Cooking

author)

37. Yukon: ___ Ter-

ritorial Park

38. "For goodness

___!"

39. Orchestra instru-

ments

42. Left-overs

45. Obsession, ___ fixe

47. Canadian cafe

chain, ___ Cup

50. ___ the Family

52. The Kid ___

Tonite by Loverboy

54. Word with Wave

55. Make up for

56. ___ 6/49

59. "...and a partridge

in a ___ tree."

60. Work unit

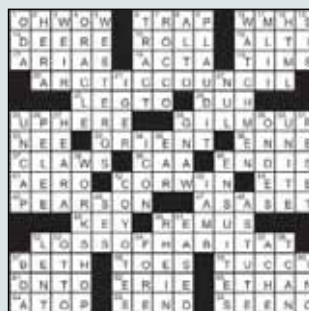
61. ___-de-sac

62. Ronny & The

Daytonas hit

63. Far, quaintly

Yesterday's Crossword

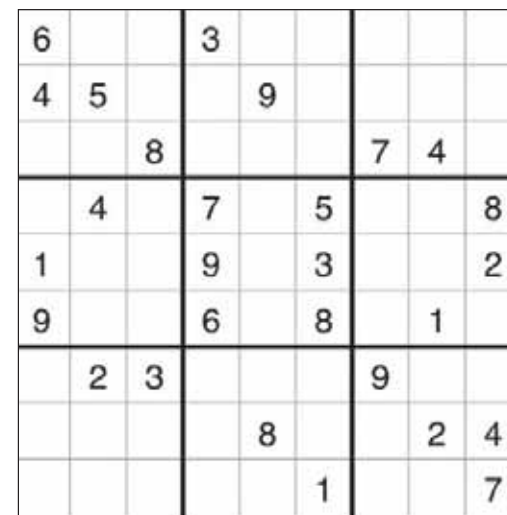


Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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